DAZZLE

MINARI ENDOH

2

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Story So Far...

A young girl named Rahzel with mysterious abilities is sent off to see the world by her father. First she is [illegible] on her own in the city she meets Alzeid, a mysterious lone traveler with abilities similar to her own. They soon [illegible] to find her father's killer–and even though they initially don't get along, the two become traveling companions, helping each other on their respective journeys. They encounter various people throughout their travels, and take it upon themselves to help the downtrodden and right wrongs (for the right amount of cash, of course). Things were actually going well, until they crossed paths with Soreste and Baroque-eat, two old acquaintances of Alzeid's who are escorting a young boy named Vincent on his journey to his family. They ask Alzeid to join them and help them make money–but he refuses. Their crassness aside, Rahzel's suspicions that all three are hiding something is only deepened after she and Vincent are attacked by professional hit men. She declares her distrust of them all–and it appears that the once blossoming partnership is now wilting.

DID YA HEAR? WHO'RE YOU GONNA BET ON?
THOUGH MAYBE WE SHOULD CHECK THEM OUT FIRST, HUH?
THERE'S GONNA BE A FIGHT!
THE CHAMP FROM FLA-TOON TWO'S FIGHTIN' THE ROOKIE!
I'M TAKING ALL BETS!
I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY TO BET WITH RIGHT NOW.
GETTING MY LIFE'S A LUCRATIVE PLAN IF I WIN, BUT IF I LOSE, I'LL BE FORCED TO KILL EVERYONE AND BECOME A FUGITIVE.
...OR YOU COULD JUST ASK ME TO SPOT YOU SOME—
DOESN'T MATTER.
HMM— SHALL I BET MY LIFE ON THE ROOKIE?
HUH?

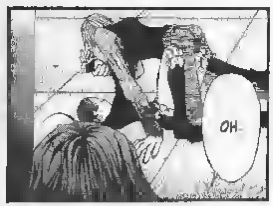
Chapter 8:
Nowhere to Go--Part 3: Like Praying

IT WAS NICE KNOWING YOU.
I'M SORRY! I SHOULD'VE ASKED YOUR OPINION FIRST!
WELL WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT LATER
RIGHT NOW WE NEED MORE TRAINING!
DON'T THINK I DIDN'T NOTICE YOU CHANGING THE SUBJECT.
BUT FINE
I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANYONE ELSE
BUT IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR HAVING SHADY FRIENDS LIKE THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE!

DOESN'T IT SMELL FISHY?
THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE VEE'S BODY-GUARDS
SO HOW COME THEY'RE ALWAYS LEAVING VEE BY HIMSELF?
THEY'VE GOT A BIG DISPUTE CENTERED ON HIM RIGHT NOW
I DIDN'T TELL YOU THE DETAILS BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR YOU
I ALREADY EXPLAINED TO YOU ABOUT HOW VINCENT'S AN ILLEGITIMATE CHILD FROM SOME WEALTHY FAMILY
...'CAUSE I ALREADY DECIDED...
IF YOU CAN'T TRUST THEM, DON'T GET INVOLVED.
Wah
THAT I'M FOLLOWING THEM TO OBPLAY.
TOO LATE FOR THAT

ALTHOUGH THOSE MEN WILL HAVE TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGE, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU BLEW UP SOMEONE'S SHOP! WHAT KIND OF NERVE DO YOU HAVE?
ONE'S ARM WAS ALMOST COMING OFF. A COUPLE OF THEIR FACES WERE SO BADLY CRUSHED THEY WERE UNIDENTIFIABLE. SOME OF THEM HAD THEIR GUTS STICKING OUT...
THE MEN YOU BLEW UP WERE BADLY WOUNDED, BUT THEY WERE STILL BREATHING, SO I FIXED THEM UP AS MUCH AS I COULD.
IF YOU'RE IN REAL DANGER, JUST GO AHEAD AND USE YOUR MAGICAL POWER
DON'T CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR OTHER PEOPLE
IS HE MAD AT ME?!
You're the one who told me not to use my power
ARE YOU IN SUCH A HURRY...
TO BECOME A KILLER?
I WON'T USE MY POWER FOR ANOTHER SIX DAYS!
BUT I'M STILL GONNA KEEP MY PROMISE!
I SWEAR IT!
POINT TAKEN
I'VE GOT MY OWN QUESTION...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ASKED TO MEET ME HERE FOR TRAINING.
WHY THE HECK DID YOU SHOW UP IN THAT GIRLY OUTFIT?!
I WANTED TO COMPETE WITH YOUR MAID COSTUME FROM THAT PHOTO
THE THEME IS "PRINCE"
YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMPETE!
Put the horse away!
DON'T YOU KNOW...
Huh?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP A PROMISE IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT?

WHAT WAS THE STRANGE CREATURE?
THE MEMORY GIVES ME NIGHTMARES EVEN NOW
IT WAS SO DARK THAT I COULDN'T SEE. MY COMPASS STOPPED WORKING, AND A STRANGE CREATURE WAS TRACKING ME. I CRIED ALL THE WAY DOWN THE MOUNTAIN
I'm starving!
Waaah. Where am I?
YOUR FATHER IS RATHER... UNIQUE
BUT I LATER FOUND OUT THAT EVERY TIME HE TESTED ME LIKE THAT, HE WAS FOLLOWING ME STEALTHILY
I COULD TELL HE WAS REALLY NERVOUS AND WORRIED ABOUT ME
IT WAS SO FUNNY!
HE'S SO OVERPRO-TECTIVE!
RAHZEL! I MADE YOU A LUNCH! LET'S GO HIKING!
MY FATHER USED TO SAY, "YOU MUST BE ABLE TO DO THINGS WITHOUT YOUR MAGICAL POWER.
BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU COULD LOSE YOUR POWER."
BUT I COULDN'T EVEN IMAGINE LOSING MY POWER.
... THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD TO TRY NOT USING MY POWER
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH
IF YOU USE YOUR MAGICAL POWER BEFORE YOU GET HOME I'LL KANG MY-SELF, GOT IT?
IT WAS A SURPRISE MAGIC BAN.
THIS IS FOR YOUR PROTECTION.
DO YOUR BEST TO CLIMB DOWN THE MOUNTAIN...
...BY YOURSELF, OKAY?


OH...

YOU GUYS SHOULD CALL ME WHEN YOU'RE GONNA DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
HOW'D YOU LIKE ME TO GIVE YOU A NICE BROKEN NECK?

I'm sleepy~
HEY, ALZEID, RAHZEL!
THE HOTEL MANAGER IS COMPLAINING THAT YOU GUYS ARE BEING TOO NOISY.

SCUFF
WHY DO I HAVE TO PLAY WITH HIM?!

HOLD ON!
WELL, I'M WORN OUT.
I'M GOING TO HIT THE SHOWER. WHY DON'T YOU PLAY WITH THIS GUY INSTEAD?

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT LOOKING FOR THE SAME KIND OF PROTECTION FROM ME
I DON'T WANT YOU TO STALK ME, EITHER
BUT YOU'VE GOTTA RESCUE ME
WHENEVER I'M IN REAL DANGER, OKAY?

HMM'N

AND I'LL RESCUE YOU.

IT DOESN'T COUNT IF YOU BEAT ME LIKE THAT!
WHAT COULD YOU DO TO RESCUE ME?
OW, OW! YOU'RE PULLING MY ARM OUT OF ITS SOCKET!

-WHEN YOU NEED ME TO, ALZEID.

AREN'T YOU CURIOUS ABOUT WHY ALZEID USED TO BE ONE OF THOSE KILLERS"?

BUT I ALREADY QUIT THE ARMY, UNLIKE SORESTA.
SO FEEL FREE TO JUMP INTO MY--♡
YOU WERE STILL ONE OF THEM!
Jimmy into where?!

I DON'T CARE!
SHE'S SO SIMPLE-MINDED.

I HAD NO IDEA
I ASSUMED YOU WERE TELLING HIM EVERYTHING ABOUT YOURSELF
I'M NOT IN THE HABIT OF DIVULGING ANYTHING WITHOUT BEING ASKED
Do I make it sound like I have a big mouth

I LIED... ACTUALLY, I WANT TO KNOW THAT MORE THAN ANYTHING
BUT I DON'T WANNA HEAR FROM YOU.
I WANT TO HEAR IT STRAIGHT FROM THE HORRIBLE MOUTH
THERE'S ALSO A LOT OF STUFF I HAVEN'T TOLD ALZEID YET, EITHER

GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
Do you hate me that much?

Hmm
I'D BE HAPPY TO TAKE HIS SUGGESTION
WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR? PHYSICAL TRAINING?

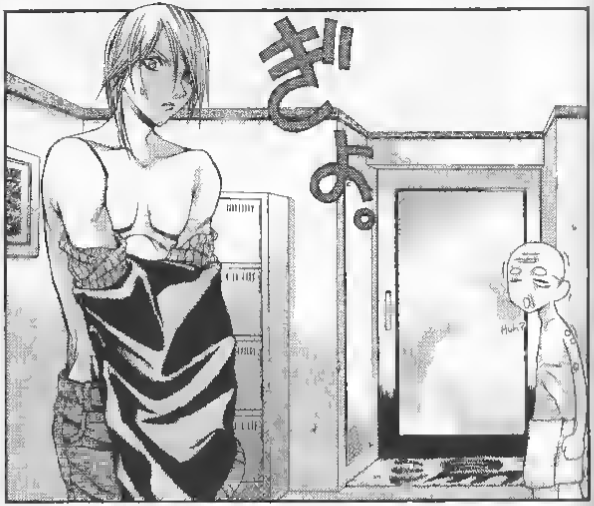
I COULD TEACH YOU A LITTLE SOMETHING YOU'VE NEVER DONE BEFORE...

AND SHE EVEN THREATENS ME!!
don't wonder what to do with her anymore
You've got three seconds to scram before I kill you
I DETEST YOU!
SO QUICK TO ANSWER!

BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING OF THE ARMY AS A BUNCH OF KILLERS
AND ALSO... I MAY SOUND PREJUDICED...

LIKE I SAID, I CAN'T TRUST YOU!

TOO DEPRESSING!
I APPRECIATE THAT YOU SHARED SUCH IMPORTANT INFORMATION!
BUT TALKATIVE MEN LIKE YOU JUST CAN'T BE POPULAR AMONG GIRLS!
SLAM!
SEE YA!
THE WAY YOU'RE DRESSED, YOU'RE GONNA CATCH A COLD OUT THERE.
ALZEID IS SO STUPID!
Click
IT WAS ALL...
ALZEID WANTED REVENGE ON HIS FATHER'S MURDERER.
BUT HE COULDN'T DO THAT WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO TRAVEL.
SO HE DEVOTED THE BLOSSOM OF HIS YOUTH TO PREPARING FOR HIS REVENGE.
...FOR REVENGE.
IN THE OBELIAN ARMY WE USED TO BELONG TO, EVEN SOMEONE WITH NO IDENTIFICATION COULD JOIN UP.
AND AFTER SOLDIERS SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR A WHILE, THEY WERE PROVIDED WITH AN OFFICIAL FAMILY REGISTRY.
WITH THAT REGISTRY EVEN PEOPLE LIKE US COULD TRAVEL BETWEEN COUNTRIES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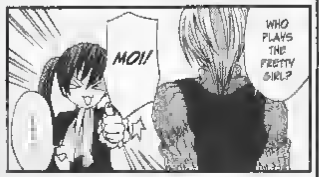
YOU'RE GOING TO HANG OUT WITH A PRETTY GIRL! YOU'RE GONNA TAKE HER OUT TO EAT AN' SO SHOPPING WITH HER!
AND YOU'RE GOING TO GET EXHAUSTED FROM LAUGHING ABOUT STUPID STUFF!
?


WHO PLAYS THE PRETTY GIRL?
MOI!

HEY—THIS IS THE MEN'S ROOM
LET'S PLAY!

IT'S IDIOTIC THAT HE'S SPENT YEARS AND YEARS JUST GETTING READY!
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE WASTED SO MUCH TIME PLANNING THIS REVENGE.
WHY'S HE SO STUCK ON GETTING REVENGE FOR HIS FATHER?
CAN'T HE JUST APPRECIATE THAT HE STILL HAS HIS OWN LIFE?!
AH!
RAHZEL!

EVEN MUAY THAI ARTISTS WOULD SEE WHAT A WASTE HE IS!
ALZEID !!

HEY, I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING
HE'S A MORON!
A TRUE IDIOT!

I'LL BE BACK IN TEN MINUTES. JUST WAIT FOR ME.
SAY, "YES, SIR!"
WHAT KIND OF ANSWER IS THAT"!
YEAH!!
WELCOME HOME, ALZEID! I HEARD YOU WERE BACK!
DON'T ARGUE!
SAY, "YES!"
AM I...
...ARROGANT TO TRY?
I SAID I'M GONNA TAKE A SHOWER!
JUST GET OUT OF HERE!
FLOP
IT MAY SOUND LIKE A WASTE OF TIME TO YOU...
I WANT TO GIVE HIM BACK THE TIME HE LOST...
BUT TIMES LIKE THIS CAN BE A VERY IMPORTANT SOURCE OF POWER!
THE LEAST I CAN DO IS TRY TO HELP HIM.
THIS IS CRITICAL FOR YOU!

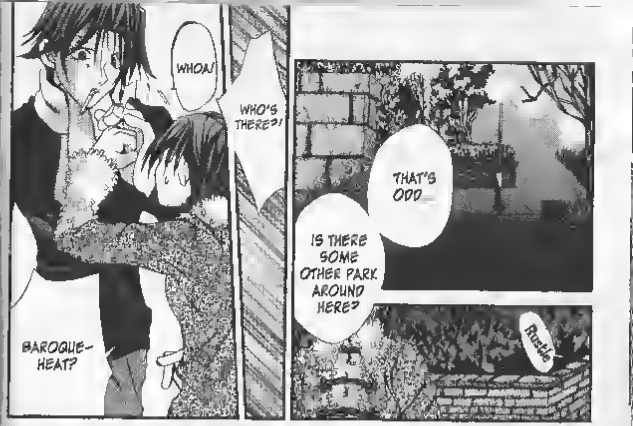
SHE'S STILL VERY CHILDISH.
I CAN NEVER LEAVE HER ALONE.
PLEASE...
SAY THANK YOU TO RAHZEL FOR ME
GOOD NIGHT
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU GOT REJECTED?

YOU WANNA EAT SOME DINNER TOGETHER?
SORRY, I ALREADY ATE.
I THOUGHT SHE HATED US.
Heh heh
SHE WAS WORRIED THAT YOU GUYS WERE STARVING AND WAITING FOR US
BUT YOUR TIMING IS GOOD
WHY WOULD I WANT TO HAVE DINNER WITH ANOTHER MAN, ANYWAY?
SHE SAID YOU SHOULD EAT IT WITH BAROQUE-HEAT.
THIS IS A SOUVENIR FROM RAHZEL.

I'd like to discuss something important with you.
Please come see me at the park by the hotel.
HEY! YEE!
VINCENT!
RAHZEL!
THANKS FOR THE FOOD!
A NOTE?

WELL, WELL...
DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON ME.
SHUT UP!
I'M GONNA GO BACK TO THE ROOM, NOW.
IT'S A SECRET. ♡
DID YOU JUST TAKE A SHOWER?
You smell good!
BUZZ OFF!!
Sigh.
JUST TELL ME YOU DON'T WANT IT, AND I'LL EAT IT.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

YOU SHOULDN'T WALK AROUND BY YOURSELF LATE AT NIGHT
WHAT'LL YOU DO IF SOME DANGEROUS MAN KIDNAPS YOU LIKE THIS?
HMM?
?
WHY THE GLUM FACE?
NOTHING IMPORTANT
THAT WAS EASY.
WHAT A JOKE.
HER, ALZEID'S PARTNER?


WHOA!
WHO'S THERE?!
BAROQUE-HEAT?
THAT'S ODD...
IS THERE SOME OTHER PARK AROUND HERE?
Rustle

WHY ARE YOU OUT HERE, ANYWAY?
STOP SNEAKING UP BEHIND ME, THEN!
DIDN'T I SAY NOT TO REACT VIOLENTLY WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING WHO IT IS?

EH?
WELL, ENJOY THE SHOW.
OH—I FORGOT TO MENTION THAT VINCENT ISN'T COMING.
I WANTED TO CHECK OUT THE COUPLES DOING THE NASTY IN THE PARK LATE AT NIGHT
DISGUSTING!

Chapter 9:
Nowhere to Go--Part 4: Broken Wings

JUST THAT I HOPE DEAR, SWEET RAHZEL WON'T HATE ME FOR THIS
SHE HATES YOU ALREADY
I'M VERY EXCITED TO SEE HOW ALZEID WILL REACT!
And so ended Rahzel's day.
He didn't have anything else to do, so he went straight to sleep.

EVERYONE'LL LOVE ME... YOU'RE SUCH A FOOL!
THE ONLY THING PROVING THE RELATIONSHIP IS THIS PIECE OF CRAP
SO STUPID...
WHO'S A FOOL?
WHERE AM I..?
GOOD, STILL GOT IT.
!!
I'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE AN "HONEST AND MOD-EST CHILD" JUST AS YOU WISHED
IS THIS THE REAL YOU?
I SEE. YOU'VE BEEN HIDING YOUR TRUE FACE
DON'T EAVESDROP WHEN I'M TALKING TO MYSELF, OLD MAN!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!

IT'S MY TURN TO PROTECT HER!
AHHHHH...!
ALTHOUGH SHE MUST HAVE DOUBTED ME THEN...
...SHE STILL PROTECTED ME WITHOUT ASKING ANYTHING OF ME!
OPEN WIDE! SAY AHHHHH!
I ONLY LIKE EATING APPLES THAT ARE CUT INTO A RABBIT SHAPE— .. I MEAN—
YOU SAID YOU WANTED AN APPLE!
I LIKE! ♡
YOU LIKE?
WHY AM I TALKING SO NICE WITH YOU?!

IF YOU KEEP TALKING LIKE THAT...
.. I SHALL HAVE TO HURT RAHZEL IN YOUR PLACE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU GUYS ARE SCHEMING, BUT IT'S NO USE
BASTARD! RAHZEL HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!
IN YOUR POSITION, YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO DE-CIDE THINGS LIKE THAT, DO YOU?
YOU'RE GONNA BE THE ONES CRYING IN THE END.
SO BE A GOOD BOY AND PLAY ALONG, ALL RIGHT?
HEY, VEE?
CAN YOU TRUST ME?
DARN IT!

DON'T BE SURPRISED IF HE DITCHES YOU, THOUGH.
SO YOU GUYS HAVE OTHER PEOPLE WORKING FOR YOU?
IS VEE OKAY?
YOU'RE BETTER OFF WORRYING ABOUT YOUR OWN NECK.
VINCENT IS THE CHILD OF THE KING OF OBLIAV AND HIS MAIDSERVANT
HE DIDN'T ALWAYS HAVE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION
BUT AFTER ALL THE HEIRS TO THE THRONE SUDDENLY DIED IN AN EPIDEMIC, THEY DECIDED TO TAKE VEE BACK IN AND MAKE HIM AN HEIR
"THAT RING VEE'S WEARING ON A CHAIN WAS GIVEN TO HIS MOTHER BY THE KING.
IT'S THE PROOF OF HIS IDENTITY.

I WANTED TO TEACH YOU HOW ADULTS PLAY TOGETHER.
Exact! Try doctor and patient!
SO THIS IS COPS AND ROBBERS?
--ARE YOU KIDDING ME? WHY AM I HANDCUFFED?!
YOU'RE ONE SICK BASTARD!
Hmm?
I ALREADY SENT A MESSENGER TO ALZEIO
SO UNTIL HE COMES TO GET YOU, JUST BE PATIENT

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT...
HOW'D HIS BABY-SITTERS TURN INTO KIDNAPPERS?
WHAT DO YOU WANT? MONEY?
I SAID, I *HAVE* KILLED SOMEONE BEFORE! YOU WANNA BE NEXT?!
DON'T MONKEY AROUND WITH ME! I'M GONNA KICK YOUR ASS!
YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND EVEN IF I EXPLAINED IT TO YOU
YOU'RE JUST A GIRL WHO'S NEVER KILLED ANYONE.
BUT I HAVE.
BY THE WAY, COULD YOU GET ME DOWN FROM HERE?
OH...I WANT A BATH.
WITH ABUNDANT CHAMOMILE BLOSSOMS FLOATING ON THE WATER AS I CLEANSE MY BODY WITH ORANGE CINNAMON SOAP
WHY MUST I SUFFER SUCH VULGAR TREATMENT ON A DAY WHEN I WISH TO BASK IN ELEGANCE?
AND I'M STARVING GIMME SOME CHOW

You can bathe w/t me if you let me watch you
When you ... you're supposed to call me Master
Dammit Shut your trap
... want you to take off these ...
UGH! SHE'S LIKE A WILD MONKEY!
KLTN
WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD ALZEID...
...WANT TO TRAVEL WITH SUCH A *KID?*
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S A WOMAN?
I DON'T THINK ALZEID'S GAY
WE'RE *PARTNERS.*
AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.
IF YOU THINK THE ONLY KIND OF RELATIONSHIP THAT CAN EXIST BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN IS ONE OF LOVE...
...YOU MUST BE SEXUALLY FRUSTRATED.

I'M SURE THAT YOU GUYS SHARED A LOT OF MEMORIES WITH ALZEID BEFORE I EVEN KNEW HIM.
ALZEID IS VERY QUIET, SO HE PROBABLY NEVER LETS PEOPLE KNOW WHAT HE'S FEELING.
...BUT I THINK HE ACTUALLY CARES ABOUT YOU AND SORESTA.
SO SORESTA HAS NO REASON TO BE JEALOUS OF ME.

SO I THINK I'LL DIVEST YOU OF THIS! ♪
EEEK?!

AMAZING HOW YOU CAN BE SO SMART AND SO STUPID AT THE SAME TIME
HUH?
YOU'RE A SOFTY YOU'RE GENEROUS TO A FAULT

HMM, I MAY HAVE A CHARACTER FLAW
JUST NOW, I COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK, "I WON!"
Is hurts though.

I THINK IT'S OKAY TO FEEL SUPERIOR SOMETIMES

Slam
OH NO.. YOU CUT YOUR LIP
Lemme see it
IT'S FINE

HEH HEH...
I GUESS THAT HAND WON'T BE WORKING WELL FOR A WHILE
OWW!!
WHEN FRISKING A CAPTIVE, IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE THOROUGH
Tee hee.

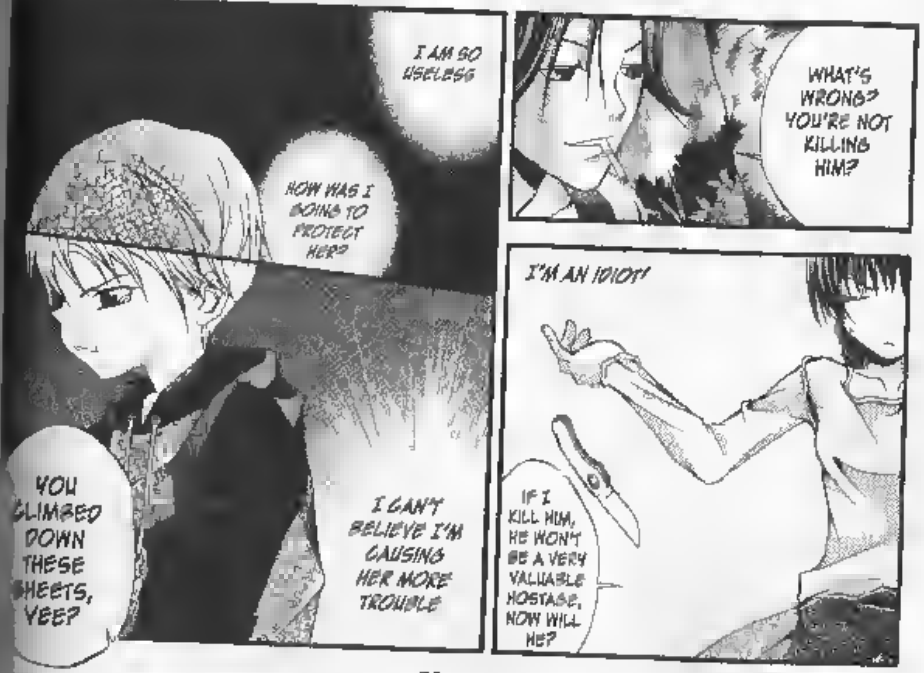
Slam
WELL, WELL...
...SINCE U EXPECT ME TO, I GUESS NOW I HAVE TO ...BY MYSELF.
Are you trying to be a sexy fighter like Fuyuko or Lupin the Third?
YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO WAIT FOR ALZEID TO RESCUE YOU, ARE YOU?
!!
DARN IT!
IF I COULD USE MY MAGICAL POWER, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO IT LIKE THIS.

DAMMIT!
LET ME GO, JERK!
UGH! HOLD STILL!
YEE?
HE'S NOT HERE, EITHER
NO CHOICE I HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE FIRST FLOOR AGAIN...
WAAAAH!!
YO!
RAHZEL!!
Squish!

THAT'S MY BOY!
YEAH
THAT SURPRISES ME-- I THOUGHT YOU WERE SCARED TO DO THINGS ALONE.
THAT WAS PRETTY BRAVE, VEE.

I'VE GOT MY OWN HOSTAGE OVER HERE...
Under my butt
OH DEAR! I DO FEEL SORRY FOR HIM...
Though I'm sure he wouldn't be happy to hear your butt
GO AT LEAST TRY TO KILL HIM PAINLESSLY
HE'S MY HOSTAGE ♡
PLEASE THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPON, RAHZEL
I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
THAT'S ENOUGH, KIDS!

BUT EVEN IF I HAD MORE FLEXIBLE CLOTHES ON AND I COULD USE MY MAGICAL POWER.
—AND I CHEATED A LITTLE BIT—
I KNOW I STILL COULDN'T DEFEAT YOU
I never thought you were going to make a boy cry.
PLUS, IT'S HARD TO FIGHT IN A LONG SKIRT
IT'S JUST ANOTHER HANDICAP.
I THINK YOU'RE PRETTY BRAVE TO ESCAPE LIKE THAT TOO, RAHZEL.
YOU MUST BE IN PAIN


I AM SO USELESS
HOW WAS I GOING TO PROTECT HER?
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M CAUSING HER MORE TROUBLE
YOU CLIMBED DOWN THESE SHEETS, VEE?
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE NOT KILLING HIM?
I'M AN IDIOT!
IF I KILL HIM, HE WON'T BE A VERY VALUABLE HOSTAGE, NOW WILL HE?

DID YOU DISLOCATE YOUR WRIST?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D HURT YOURSELF TO ESCAPE
THE PRINCESS IS JUST SUPPOSED TO WAIT FOR THE PRINCE TO COME RESCUE HER.
YOUR HAND...
NAH. WEARING GLASS SLIPPERS AND BEING AWAKENED BY A KISS JUST ISN'T MY STYLE.
LISTEN UP!
THERE'S THIS WONDERFUL ANCIENT CHINESE SAYING...
"TO FORM THE WORD..
...PERSON..
The Chinese character for "person."
"OBVIOUSLY THE LINE ON THE LEFT IS RELYING ON THE LINE ON THE RIGHT."
Hmph!

UMM, ISN'T THAT SUPPOSED TO BE "BOTH LINES HAVE TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER"?
IF THAT WERE TRUE, IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR FOR ONE TO BE SHORTER THAN THE OTHER!
BY THE WAY, IF YOU FLIP IT AROUND SO THE RIGHT LINE'S LEANING ON THE LEFT LINE, IT MEANS, "ENTER."
SINCE PEOPLE CAN'T SUPPORT EACH OTHER UNLESS THEY'RE ALL AT THE SAME LEVEL...
ANYWAY, MY HAND HURTS, AND I'M ALSO A BIT SCARED BUT I'VE GOT NO OTHER CHOICE
I'LL DO MY BEST TO CLIMB UP AS HIGH AS I CAN!
SO I'M GOING TO CHALLENGE MYSELF TO DO MORE CRAZY THINGS AND BECOME MORE STUBBORN!
THE GUY I'M TRAINING WITH ISN'T EXACTLY NORMAL, YOU KNOW?
I TAKE IT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BEG FOR YOUR LIFE?
WHEN I DIE, I PLAN TO BE LAUGHING HYSTERICALLY!
AHAHAH...

WELL, YOU'VE CONVINCED ME! FROM NOW ON, I'M ON YOUR SIDE!
WHAT THE HELL?!
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING, BAROQUEHEAT!
NOPE. I JUST REALIZED I CAN'T HAVE NEAR AS MUCH FUN WITH A CORPSE
IF YOU WANT TO BLAME ANYTHING, BLAME YOUR OWN GENDER! ♡

YOU'RE DEAD MEAT!
YOU TALK PRETTY BIG FOR SOMEONE IN YOUR SITUATION.
HOW YOU GONNA FIGHT WITHOUT A SWORD?
HA HA..
NO SWORD?

I'LL FOLLOW YOU AS SOON AS I CAN. NOW GET.
YOU'D BETTER HIGH-TAIL IT WITH THAT KID BEFORE IT GETS MESSY, RAHZEL
How come you're so stiff?
FINE, THEN. LET'S FIGHT!
BUT I GOTTA WARN YOU, I'M PRETTY GOOD AT IT
AND I'M NOT GONNA SHOW ANY MERCY-- EVEN IF YOU GET ON YOUR KNEES AND BEG, GOT IT?
ARE YOU PLANNING TO TAKE US ALL ON BY YOURSELF?!
WOULDN'T IT BE NICER FOR YOU TO JUST STAND THERE WAVING FAREWELL TO US WITH HANDKERCHIEFS?
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING!

WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?
COME ON, BOYS!
I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU FEEL SO GOOD...
...THAT YOUR SYNAPSES WILL SHORT OUT!

YOU'D BETTER HURRY...
...OR YOU'LL SEE A LOT OF BLOOD-SHED.

DON'T TELL ME...YOU WANT TO WALK IN THE DIRECTION THE STICK POINTS WHEN IT FALLS?

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO PLAY BOU TAOSHI?

I FORGOT TO ASK HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE!
YOU ARE SOOO RIGHT! DAMMIT!
YOU'RE TOTALLY LOST, AREN'T YOU?
Eeeek!!

YOU WANT TO GO THAT WAY...

I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU, ALZEID
AS YOU KNOW, THE GIRL'S A REAL SHREW
I FIGURE SHE'S GIVEN YOU ENOUGH TROUBLE BY NOW.

WHO I AM ISN'T IMPOR-TANT.
WHAT MATTERS MOST FOR YOU RIGHT NOW IS GET-TING TO YOUR PRECIOUS FRIEND
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
WHO ARE YOU?
AND WHAT'S THIS ABOUT BLOOD-SHED?
AAH, WHO AM I INDEED?
FRIEND, OR FOE?
QUIT FOOLING AROUND!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT
I DON'T CARE YET WHOSE SIDE YOU'RE ON
SO FOR NOW, I THANK YOU

Chapter 10: Nowhere to Go—Part 5: Quiet Rain

I'll finally go eat after this.
I'M KIND OF IN A BAD MOOD
—SINCE I DIDN'T EAT BREAKFAST YET.
FOR THAT REA-SON
—I WANNA GET THIS OVER AS QUICKLY AS POS-SIBLE
YOU'RE SO SIMPLE
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED THAT ABOUT YOU
AND NOW..
...TO THE DEATH.

NOW IT'S A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST HELD A SWORD.
LET ME PRACTICE A BIT...
IN THAT CASE, I'LL EVEN THE ODDS
YOU'RE PRETTY CRUEL. WEREN'T THEY YOUR FRIENDS?
YOU WEREN'T ALWAYS SO SWEET.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M HEARING THOSE WORDS COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTH.
WHAT'S THE PRIZE FOR WINNING?
THE PRINCESS.
THAT'S THE WAY IT ALWAYS IS.
LET ME EXPLAIN THE RULES...
YOU WIN WHEN YOU DEFEAT ALL THE MEN HERE
BUT IF YOU USE MAGIC, YOU LOSE AUTOMATICALLY
HA!
WHAT A FABULOUS PRIZE.
OH DEAR... I DIDN'T SAY "START" YET.

TELL ME, ALZEID...
HOW COME YOU JUST LEFT WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE?
WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO FIGHT MUCH, SINCE THAT LITTLE CIVIL WAR DIDN'T LAST VERY LONG...
BUT MY LIFE WITH YOU AND BARQUE-HEAT WAS SO HAPPY...
AND WHEN THE WAR ENDED AND YOU BOTH QUIT THE ARMY - I LOST EVERY-THING

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I HEARD SOMEONE BET HIS LIFE I'D WIN THAT FIGHT...
SO THAT MADE ME WANT TO MEET HIM - BUT THE WAY YOU REACTED -
FIGHTING YOU LIKE THIS SURE TAKES ME BACK TO THE FIRST TIME WE MET
I JUST WANT...
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT AT ALL.
THAT'S EXACTLY HOW IT HAPPENED!

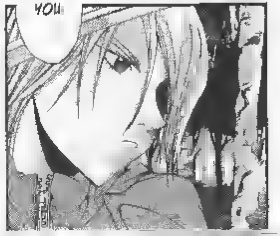
...GIVES ME NEITHER PAIN NOR SATISFAC-TION.
KILLING STRANG-ERS...
I'M SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU BATTLE-FIELDS DON'T INTEREST ME ONE BIT
URK!!
SORESTA...
THE SAME GOES FOR KILLING YOU.

THE SWEET SMELL OF BLOOD, THE FEEL OF SLASHING MUSCLE AND BONE...
THE MERE THOUGHT MAKES ME TREMBLE ALL OVER
THE BATTLEFIELD IS THE ONLY PLACE I AM TRULY ALIVE.

VINCENT IS MY TICKET TO GET EVERYTHING BACK.
Where are we now?!
I think it's this way.
USING HIM, I COULD STAGE A COUP D'ETAT OR START A WAR...

YOU SOUND LIKE A PERVERT

I WANT TO GO BACK THERE...


...WITH YOU!

WHAT KIND OF ENTRANCE WAS THAT?
GREETINGS, KIND SIR!
CARE TO JOIN ME FOR A CUP OF TEA?

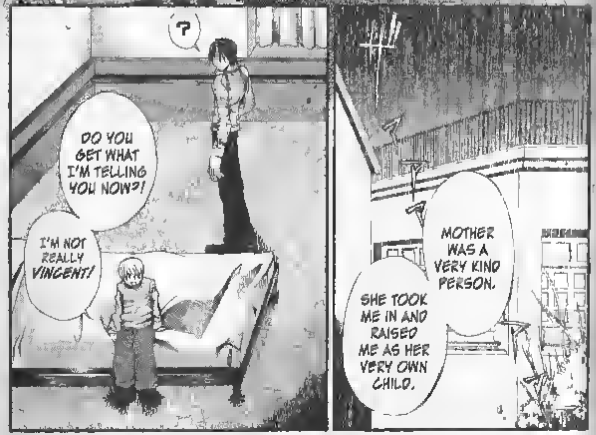
YO, WHAT'S UP, SORESTA?
NO THANKS
BY THE WAY I'M FLIPPIN COLD SO SHARE YOUR JACKET!
AND I'VE GOT A DISLOCATED JOINT I WANT YOU TO FIX

WELL, SEE YA 'ROUND!
SA-ROSUKE-HEAT—
WHAT'S GOING ON? DID YOU BETRAY ME?
I'M ROUGH WITH GIRLS ONLY IN BED ♡

RAHIEL'S HIS PARTNER, AND I'M JUST A STRANGER TO HIM.
NONE.
ANY LAST WORDS?
I SEE.
SO LONG, THEN.

Rraaagh!!
I JUST WANT...
...TO BE YOUR FRIEND.
OR IF YOU CONTINUE TO BE FRIENDS, I CAN TAKE OVER YOUR CLEANING DUTIES OR BRING YOU YOUR MEALS
YOU ASKING ME TO TREAT YOU LIKE SOME ERRAND BOY?
YOU'RE WEIRD.
He doesn't get what they're talking about. →
PLEASE DON'T HATE ME, I'LL BUY YOU DINNER.
WITH DESSERT...?
WITH DESSERT! ♡
And not smoking, either?
THAT'S WHERE I SHOULD BELONG.
THAT'S WHERE I USED TO BELONG
RAHZEL! YOU FORGOT YOUR COAT!
PLEASE ACCEPT IT WITH ALL MY LOVE!
EW! I'D RATHER GET A NEW ONE! BUZZ OFF!
NO WAY...
AND I CAN AGAIN...
...ONLY IF YOU ARE GONE!!
?

IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO REALIZE THAT.
BUT I GUESS NOW...


?
DO YOU GET WHAT I'M TELLING YOU NOW?!
I'M NOT REALLY VINCENT!
MOTHER WAS A VERY KIND PERSON.
SHE TOOK ME IN AND RAISED ME AS HER VERY OWN CHILD.

RAHZEL !!
THIS WHOLE TIME..
WHAT I REALLY WANTED WAS RIGHT WITHIN MY GRASP.

...BETTER HURRY UP...
...AND STOP.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, STUPID CHICK?

HE DIED SIX MONTHS AGO FROM THE SAME DISEASE AS EVERYONE ELSE IN THE ROYAL FAMILY.
IT'S SUCH A STUPID STORY.
THEN WHERE'S THE REAL VINCENT?
DEAD.
I WENT ALONG WITH THIS JUST BECAUSE I WANTED TO KICK HIS ASS FOR VEE'S SAKE
I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS GOING TO BE SUCH A LONG JOURNEY.
THIS BLASTED RAIN
HE KEPT ASKING MOM "WHEN IS MY DAD COMING TO SEE ME?" UNTIL HE DIED.
AND MOM JUST CRIED AND TOLD HIM, "HE'LL BE HERE SOON."
IT'S SO CONVENIENT FOR HIS DAD TO WANT TO SEE HIM NOW THAT HE'S LOST ALL HIS OTHER HEIRS

I THOUGHT I COULD GO ANYTHING ON MY OWN.
I DIDN'T WANT TO JUST BE PROTECTED BY ANOTHER PERSON ALL THE TIME.
I BELIEVED I COULD DO SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE ELSE FOR A CHANGE.
AH HA HA...
WELL...
I WAS A LITTLE TOO SELF-CONFIDENT.

ALL I CAN DO IS TO WATCH HIM FROM FAR AWAY.
I'M POWERLESS.
AND NOW I'M WET ALL THE WAY TO MY UNDERWEAR.
IT FEELS PRETTY GROSS.
I CAN'T EVEN SAY "I'M SORRY" OR "THANK YOU."
WHAT AM I SAYING? THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING.

I BROUGHT YOU AN UMBRELLA BECAUSE IT'S RAINING
THEN HOW COME YOU WERE HIDING?

IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE CRYING...

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND BREAK THE UMBRELLA?!
AH HA HA! YOU'RE SOAKING WET!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT THAT?!

NOW LOOK WHAT YOU DID! THE RAIN GOT WORSE BECAUSE YOU SAID SOMETHING STUPID!
BASH!
SHUT UP, RAIN MAN!
WAAAH! SO COLD!

I THINK IT'S A BAD IDEA FOR YOU TO DO LIVE SOME-ONE ELSE'S LIFE.
I'VE GOTTA FINISH WHAT I STARTED.
ARE YOU REALLY LEAVING NOW?
YOU THINK?
NAH. NOW I'M JUST CURIOUS TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.
IS THIS FOR REVENGE?!
WELL, I CAN SEE THE PEOPLE WHO'RE WAIT-ING FOR ME. I'M OFF!
WAIT!

AH-CHOO!
WE'RE GONNA CATCH COLDS.
LET'S HURRY BACK.
I AM SO...
ARE YOU CRYING?
IT'S THE RAIN, OF COURSE!
DO YOU NEED GLASSES OR SOMETHING?!

YOUR ANGER'S UNDERSTANDABLE, SINCE IT WAS HER FIRST KISS
HEY, ALZEID! ARE YOU MAD AT ME 'CAUSE I KISSED RAHZEL?
ARE YOU GUYS IGNORING ME?!
FORMULA OF HARDNESS = CALCIUM X 2.5 + MAGNESIUM X 1.0
AT THE FOUNT OF ALL PURITY IS THERE SOMEONE WHO TASTES THE WATER?
THERE ISN'T
AND HOW SWEET AND WONDERFUL IT WAS!
HEY! IF YOU SAY ANOTHER WORD...
NOW WE ALL SHARE THE KISS. ♡
...I'M GONNA...

YOU GONNA MISS HIM, RAHZEL?
A LITTLE.
AND I GUESS THIS IS WHERE WE SAY GOODBYE AS WELL.
DIDN'T YOU KNOW I'M COMING WITH YOU?
WHAT?
FOR THAT REASON, I'LL BE TAGGING ALONG TO MAKE SURE YOU TWO DON'T DO ANYTHING UNSEEMLY.
IT'S NOT PROPER FOR A YOUNG MAN AND A YOUNG WOMAN TO TRAVEL ALONE TOGETHER!
USE YOUR HEADS!

SO NOW...
...LET THE GAME BEGIN!
?!
I DID NOT JUST SEE THAT...
WHOOOA! IT WAS JUST A HARMLESS JOKE!
CAREFUL! I'M GONNA DIE! SERIOUSLY!
WHO'S MY MAKER, ANYWAY?!
There There Don't be scared
I SOLVED HIS PROBLEM. NOW WE SHOULD KISS AGAIN...
click
PREPARE TO MEET YOUR MAKER.
THE PIECES HAVE ALL BEEN GATHERED.
IT'S THAT GUY FROM YESTERDAY

✦ Just think of it as the ending of Chapter 8

KEEP WALKING!
EH? BUT WHAT ABOUT BAROQUE-HEAT...?
PAY ATTENTION!
SHUT UP!
HE'S GONE?!
FORGET ABOUT THAT KISS. PRETEND YOU JUST GOT LICKED BY A SNAIL.
LIKE I COULD FORGET SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE NOT HELPING AT ALL!

I WAS THE YOUNGEST CHILD OF FOUR SIBLINGS, AND I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE AN OLDER BROTHER
SO I WAS GLAD TO HAVE YOU IN MY LIFE LIKE A LITTLE SISTER
SORRY IF I MADE YOU FEEL BAD, TRYING TO BE SO CLOSE TO YOU.
BAROQUE-HEAT

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
YOU'D ACTUALLY KISS YOUR SISTER?
KILL
YOU REALLY ARE ONE SICK BASTARD!
IT WAS JUST A LITTLE PHYSICAL CONTACT TO SHOW MY AFFECTION! ♡

How to make a boric acid ball
Mix flour, boric acid and water. Knead and form into a ball.
THERE'S A COCKROACH THAT'S BEEN BUGGING ME FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS...
...AND I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF HIM.

Extremely toxic to humans
HERE, TRY SOME! ♡
YOU TRYIN' TO KILL ME?!

RAHZEL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
I'M MAKING A BORIC ACID BALL.

Wow
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH YOU HATE ME
WHAT'S THIS? AM I A COCK-ROACH TO YOU?
LET ME EXPLAIN IT GENTLY YOU'RE A COCKROACH SCHMUCK.

NOT ON YOUR LIFE!
HEY, I CAN GIVE YOU SOME BETTER PRACTICE THAN LITTLE BOY AL...
I'M A MASTER AT HORIZONTAL TECHNIQUES ♡
DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR NOT RESPECTING JASON OR THE EXORCIST?
LISTEN! BRUTAL ATTACKS ALWAYS HAPPEN ON FRIDAY, OKAY?!
NEVER HEARD OF 'EM...
STRIKE FROM THE RIGHT.

MY PHYSICAL STRENGTH'S ALL I CAN RELY ON SINCE I CAN'T USE MY MAGICAL POWER RIGHT NOW...
ONCE I'VE TRAINED ENOUGH...
IT'LL BE TIME TO BEGIN THE SPECTACULAR "RAHZEL FIGHTING SOUL LEGEND"!

ANYWAY, HOW DOES ALZIO SLEEP THROUGH ALL THIS RACKET?
I TRIED TO WAKE HIM UP, BUT HE WON'T BUDGE. I NEED HIM TO GIVE ME SOME PHYSICAL TRAINING.
PHYSICAL TRAINING? WHY'D YOU WANNA DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
FACE SLAP!!

SHUT UP! IT'S FRIDAY IN MY HEART!
Ah ha ha!
WHATEVER YOU SAY. IT'S STILL TUESDAY.

I COULD ALSO CALL IT "THE LEGEND OF BLOODY FRIDAY."
TODAY IS TUESDAY.

Chapter II Praying Words

ぱたんっ
(sounding of a sleeping person)
WHAT A NICE DAY!
HUH. WHO KNEW SONIC ACID BALLS MADE GOOD SPACKLE...?

AND WE'LL GET TO THE TOWN BY EVENING IF WE KEEP FOLLOWING THIS ROAD
WE'LL FIND A PLACE TO STAY THERE FOR THE NIGHT...
Map
...AND WE'LL ALSO PICK UP SOME SUPPLIES WE NEED
ANYWAYS...
How are you anyway? Rahzel dear. Long time no talk!
...WHY IS *HE* HERE EATING OUR FOOD?!
WHAT THE HELL? "US" MEANS ONLY *YOU* AND RAHZEL? AND I'M NOT INCLUDED?!
ALZEID, JUST KEEP IGNORING HIM AND PRETEND HE DOESN'T EXIST

HE JUST GETS MORE *ANNOYING* WHEN WE START TALKING TO HIM
IF WE IGNORE HIM, HE'LL GET BORED SOONER OR LATER
YOUR BUST SIZE IS ONLY 73 CM? I SEE YOU'VE STILL GOT SOME GROWING TO DO...
grope
HUH ...I THINK *I'M* GETTING BIGGER! WHAT SHOULD I DO, RAHZEL?!
I'M GONNA SLICE YOU UP!
PLAY AFTER CLEANING UP THIS MESS!
DAMMIT...
Even though we've got a weirdo tagging along, we're doing fine

YEAH! AND I'M NOT ALZEID!
WHY ARE YOU BRINGING ME INTO THIS?
YOU'RE RIGHT. I MIGHT'VE BEEN TOO HARD ON YOU.
I WAS JUST ENJOYING FINDING OUT THE WEAKNESS OF THE PERSON I HATE MOST...
UMM...
...WASN'T I?
I DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM...
A KISS ON THE FOREHEAD IS JUST LIKE A HANDSHAKE!
YOU CAN'T TELL ME YOUR DAD DOESN'T KISS YOUR FOREHEAD.
Hmph
!!
bonk
HOW COULD YOU SAY IT WAS JUST A KISS...?

GOOD JOB SETTING US LOST RIGHT AFTER WE GOT TO THE MOUNTAINS
NOW WE GET TO SLEEP OUTSIDE IN THE COLD
WITHOUT ANY EQUIPMENT?
I'LL FREEZE TO DEATH!
I write both monsters!
HOW COME YOU GUYS NEVER RUN OUT OF BREATH?!
I WORK OUT A LOT. ♡
YOUR ENERGY LEVEL IS ENVIABLE
DO STUFF LIKE THAT AGAIN AND I'LL BREAK YOU INTO PIECES.
CAN'T YOU JUST GET USED TO ME ALREADY...?
IN THAT CASE, IT HELPS TO TOUCH HUMAN SKIN TO GET WARM.

ARE YOU BLAMING ME?
NOT REALLY I THINK IT WAS HIS FAULT... PLUS, I'M ON RAHZEL'S SIDE, ANYWAYS
BUT I WOULDN'T HAVE KILLED HIM
WERE YOU SO DESPERATE TO RESCUE RAHZEL THAT YOU COULDN'T CONTROL THE STRENGTH OF YOUR POWER?
OR WAS IT THAT YOU COULDN'T FORGIVE SORESTA FOR TRYING TO HARM HER?
OR WHAT? MAYBE YOU'VE FINALLY FLIPPED YOUR LID?

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
SINCE YOU'VE STILL GOT SO MUCH ENERGY LEFT IN YOU, GO GET SOME FIREWOOD!
YOU DON'T WANT TO FREEZE TO DEATH, DO YOU?
OUUUCH!!
GOOD! YOU FINALLY MADE ME LAUGH!
SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BECOME SUCH A CRUEL COMEDIAN CHARACTER?!
And what are you laughing at?!

Yeah!
SO I'M GONNA RUN AROUND AND COLLECT SOME FIREWOOD!
SHE'S A TRUE IDIOT.
OH MY GOD SHE'S RUNNING LIKE A MANIAC!

SHE FEELS GUILTY THAT SORESTA DIED BECAUSE OF HER
—TO TRY TO PROVE THAT THERE'S SOME WAY SHE CAN BE USEFUL...
YET SHE DOES THE SHOPPING, COOKING, AND CLEANING ALL BY HERSELF...
Hey! This isn't olive oil! It's grape seed oil!
TRYING TO KEEP UP WITH US AND OUR LONG LEGS
SHE MUST BE EXHAUSTED...
SHE'S SO PURE AND CUTE, ISN'T SHE?

WELL, NOW
WHERE AM I?!
OH NO...I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF ANY FUNNY JOKES LIKE USUAL.
WELL, ANYWAY, I'D BETTER GATHER SOME FIREWOOD!
IF A GIRL GETS A LITTLE LOST, DOES THAT MAKE HER A LITTLE LOST GIRL?
SOMEONE PLEASE TALK BACK TO ME
I need a struggle mac for my jokes
OH DEAR. HAVE I UPSET YOU?
I'M SOO SORRY ♡
DO YOU LIKE TO PLAY RUSSIAN ROULETTE
WITH A FULL CHAMBER?
I'M REALLY SORRY!

I WONDER IF HE'S TRYING TO CONTACT ALIENS? OR MAYBE HE WANTS TO COMMIT SUICIDE?
WELL, IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS
WHAT'S THAT GUY DOING IN SUCH A DANGEROUS PLACE?
I'M AFRAID YOU MISUNDERSTOOD.
I WAS JUST TAKING A WALK
HEY! YOU TRYING TO KILL YOURSELF?!
IF I HAVE TO WATCH YOU DIE, I DOUBT I'LL BE ABLE TO SLEEP FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS!
SO PLEASE DO IT SOMEWHERE ELSE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
I LIVE IN A SMALL HOUSE I BUILT NEAR HERE
IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
YOU MAY THINK ME A BIT ODD BUT I LIKE THIS PLACE

A SCAR...?
FORGIVE ME. I LIED TO YOU.
I JUST COULDN'T DIE
I'VE TRIED SO MANY TIMES, BUT I JUST CAN'T GO ALL THE WAY
SO I JUST WANDER AROUND OUT THERE.
WOULD YOU MIND LISTENING TO MY STORY FOR A WHILE?
I'M SORRY. YOU JUST LOOKED SO UNHAPPY FOR SOME REASON
HERE I MADE SOME HOT CHOCOLATE
IT'LL WARM YOU UP
NO HARD FEELINGS.
IT'S MY FAULT YOU GOT THE WRONG IMPRESSION.
IF YOU GO OUT THERE IN THE DARK, YOU'LL JUST GET LOST AGAIN. YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY HERE TONIGHT
WHY DON'T YOU TRY AND CATCH UP WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN THE MORNING?
BUT IF I WAIT 'TIL TOMORROW, THEY MIGHT LEAVE ME BEHIND...

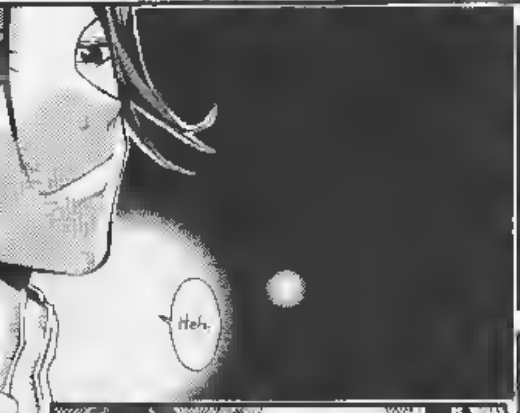
GOOD MORNING!
WE'VE COME TO COLLECT OUR LOST KITTEN!
Creak
SHE SHOULD BE RESTING FOR A WHILE.
I SHOULD SAY... THAT'S MORE LIKE AN ORDER.
SHE WAS SHOWING SIGNS OF EXHAUSTION.
OH! YOU MUST BE HER FRIENDS
BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO LOOK SO INTIMI-DATING...

SHE'S FATIGUED AND HAS A FEVER...
IF I WERE HER FRIEND, I WOULDN'T LET HER PUSH HERSELF SO HARD.
PLEASE DON'T MISUNDER-STAND... I'M NOT TRYING TO ASSIGN BLAME.
I USED TO BE A DOCTOR
THAT IS UNTIL I KILLED MY WIFE BY MAKING A MISTAKE DURING SURGERY.
THAT WAS SUCH A SHOCK, I HAD TO GIVE UP MY PRACTICE.
I MOVED DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAINS... WHERE I TRIED TO KILL MYSELF BY SLITTING MY WRISTS, AS WELL AS TAKING LOTS OF SLEEPING PILLS.
BUT RAHZEL TOLD ME...
I THINK YOU'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO SUFFER MORE

I WAS LONELY.
WHEN I COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL COLD AND DARK AND ALONE.
-- HER SIMPLE WORDS FILLED ME WITH HOPE

I RESPECT YOU FOR SUFFERING...
...AFTER CHOOSING SUCH A BURDENSOME PATH.
BUT SOMEDAY...
I WANT YOU TO FORGIVE YOURSELF, IF JUST A LITTLE BIT.
...
YEAH, I KNOW. SHE CAN BE BLUNT TO THE POINT OF CRUELTY.
IT WAS YOUR JOB TO SAVE PEOPLE'S LIVES
YOU WEREN'T ALLOWED TO MAKE MISTAKES
BUT NOBODY'S PERFECT, AND WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES AT SOME POINT IN OUR LIVES, NO MATTER HOW HARD WE TRY
BUT EVERY TIME WE DO MAKE A MISTAKE, WE HAVE TO LEARN FROM IT.

I can't believe her!
HER SLEEPING POSTURE SUCKS.

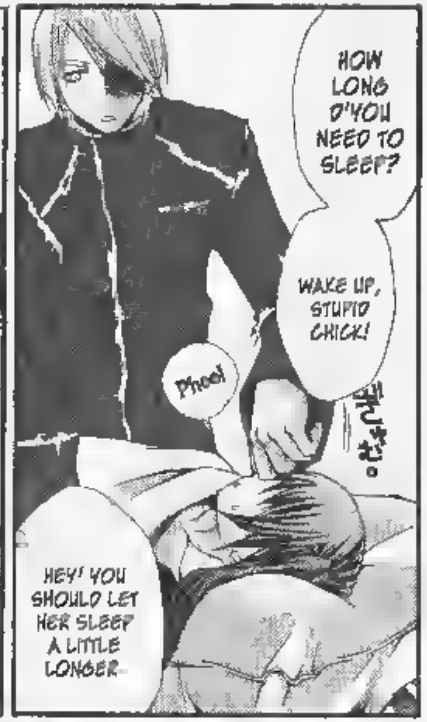

Heh.

BUT...

AND YOU CAN ALSO PICK UP SCATTERED BONES, RIGHT?
Don't waste my time
BONES?!

...I KNOW YOU'RE CAPABLE OF GETTING A PUDDING OR PUTTING ON YOUR COAT BY YOURSELF...
WHEN YOU'RE WORN OUT

SHE'S THE ONE WHO WANTED TO PUSH HERSELF SO FAR!
And she takes care of everything perfectly
SHE INSISTS ON DOING EVERYTHING HERSELF
BUT...


HOW LONG D'YOU NEED TO SLEEP?
WAKE UP, STUPID CHICK!
Phoo!
HEY! YOU SHOULD LET HER SLEEP A LITTLE LONGER...

WAKE UP! I'M NOT YOUR FATHER!
Ah!

Umpm...
WHAT IS IT, DADDY?

I'M STILL SLEEPY...

I'M SORRY, BUT I MUST REFUSE.
IT'S ALREADY DARK OUTSIDE PLEASE STAY AT LEAST ONE NIGHT IN MY HOME.
PLEASE WAIT!
THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF HER!
HER DUTY IS WITH US.
YOU CAN'T HAVE HER JUST BECAUSE YOU TOOK A LIKING TO HER
I SUGGEST YOU LOOK FOR SOME-ONE ELSE
Ha ha
IF YOU BECOME TIRED OF HER, PLEASE LEAVE HER WITH ME
SO, WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO NOW?
I DON'T WANNA SLEEP OUTSIDE ANYMORE
Whoa!
WHERE AM I?
OH, YOU'RE AWAKE NOW?
YOU CAN GO BACK TO SLEEP IF YOU WANT. I'M BUFF!
DON'T SPOIL HER.

IT WOULD'VE BEEN FASTER TO TAKE THE LONGER WAY AROUND, SINCE WE GET LOST SO EASILY IN THE FOREST
WE ARE NOT LOST!
THIS IS A SHORTCUT!
PLEASE TELL ME WHY WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE FOREST
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
WE'LL SEE THE TOWN SOON
I CAN'T TRUST YOU
SHOW ME THE MAP
SEE—
EEEEEK!!
WHY DON'T YOU BELIEVE ME?!
HOW CAN I BELIEVE YOU?!
DO YOU THINK THAT MAN CAN BECOME A DOCTOR AGAIN?
PRAY FOR HIM.
Darn
NO THANKS I'LL DIE IF I FALL ASLEEP IN THIS COLD
PLUS, I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT YOU MIGHT DO TO ME IN MY SLEEP...
WHAT'D YOU SAY? I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EARS! ALZEID, THE ROMANTIC!
BAROQUEHEAT, YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH HER
REALLY? YEAH!♡
EEEEK!!

WHAT THE HELL?!
YOU GUYS ARE THE IDIOTS!
LOOK AT THAT!!
WOW! YOU'RE PRETTY AGGRESSIVE TODAY! IT'S AN HONOR TO BE HUGGED BY YOU! ♡
THINK YOU CAN HOLD BACK UNTIL BEDTIME?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, IDIOT?!

YOU MEAN THE PLACE WHERE THOSE CORPSES ARE LEFT FOR THE VULTURES?
Ughh!
I KNOW IT SOUNDS QUITE BRUTAL...
—BUT IT'S A VERY COMMON PRACTICE IN THIS AREA.

BUT YOU ALWAYS MAKE A SCENE, SHOUTING, "WHERE'S THE BATHROOM?!"
IT'S THE SAME OLD EXPLANATION AT EVERY HOTEL. IT'S GETTING TO BE A REAL DRAG.

YOU'RE THROWING UP DUST!
THIS ROOM HAS NO LOCK, SO IF YOU HAVE ANY VALUABLES...
...PLEASE TAKE THEM WITH YOU... UM... HELLO?
HEY, THIS BED'S GOT PRETTY GOOD SPRINGS!
GUYS, YOU MIGHT WANT TO LISTEN TO THE HOTEL OWNER'S EXPLANATION—

Chapter 12:
The Sun in the Palm—Part 1: Borderline

I REMEMBER NOW!
WE'RE IN SEARCH OF THE PERSON WHO KILLED ALZEIO'S FATHER!
YEAH... HOW COME...?
IT'S A SCHOOL TRIP, RIGHT?
YOU GUYS...
BY THE WAY... HOW COME YOU'RE ALL TRAVELING TOGETHER?
YOU DON'T LOOK ELATED...
CAN YOU GIVE ME THE PERSON'S DESCRIPTION?
I'M GLAD YOU ASKED!
NOW, DON'T LET IT FRIGHTEN YOU!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS BLURT THINGS TO STRANGERS WITHOUT THINKING FIRST?
YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE WE MIGHT FIND A CLUE!
THERE COULD BE SOME HERE!

OH, LARAWELL I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE THERE.
HERE! SAY HELLO TO OUR GUESTS.
"MY NAME IS LARAWELL
PLEASED TO MEET YOU!"
W-WEL... COME...
THIS IS MY DAUGHTER, LARAWELL.
SINCE MY WIFE PASSED AWAY, LARAWELL IS MY ONLY FAMILY AND HOTEL STAFF.
PLEASE LET HER KNOW IF AND WHEN YOU NEED ANYTHING
DOTING FATHER !?
A DOTING FATHER !?
GOOD-LOOKING IDIOT?
GOOD JOB, LARAWELL!
Hug!

...WHICH HE USES TO ATTRACT TRAVELERS AND SUCK THEM INTO HIS MAW. HE'S A VERY SCARY MONSTER.
UNLIKE HIS HIDEOUS APPEARANCE, HE HAS A BEAUTIFUL VOICE LIKE A SPRING ZEPHYR, AND BREATH THAT SMELLS LIKE HERB TEA...
HE'S A GIANT WHO CAN SPLIT THE CLOUDS...
HIS BODY IS COVERED WITH GREEN STEEL SCALES, AND HIS PUPILS ARE VERTICAL SLITS FLASHING IN THE LIGHT...
WE GOTTA LOOK FOR A MONSTER LIKE THAT?!
THAT'S ALL JUST MY IMAGINATION, OF COURSE.
IT'S A WOMAN...
...WITH LONG BLACK HAIR...
...AND BLUE EYES...
122
I'VE NEVER HAD ANY GUESTS HERE FITTING THAT DESCRIPTION
BUT I'VE HEARD THERE'S A VILLAGE DOWN IN THE SOUTHWEST THAT HAS PEOPLE WITH THAT HAIR AND EYE COLOR.
YOU TALKIN' ABOUT MOI?!
IT HAPPENED ABOUT THIRTEEN YEARS AGO. WHERE WERE YOU BACK THEN?
I WAS J-JUST ONE YEAR OLD...
Really?
YOU MUST'VE BEEN SUCH AN AGGRESSIVE TODDLER!
SOUTHWEST, IT'S SOUTHWEST, BAROQUE-HEAD!
Okay, okay
IF YOU...
ARE YOU GOING TO KILL HER?
IF YOU FIND THE PERSON, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
123

I WAS SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THAT ALZEID'S FATHER IS KILLE...WAS A WOMAN.
WHAT-EVER IT TAKES TO PROTECT HER...
HOW COME YOU DIDN'T GIVE ME HER DESCRIPTION EARLIER?
THAT WOULD'VE MADE LOOK-ING FOR HER EASIER.
SO, WHERE SHE CAME FROM IS NOW OUR KEY, NOW.
WELL, THAT COLOR COMBINA-TION'S PRETTY RARE--I SHOULD KNOW
WAS THAT DESCRIPTION REALLY DETAILED ENOUGH TO BE HELPFUL?
I SENSE THAT YOU'VE BEEN HID-ING SOME DEEP, DARK SECRET FROM US
THE WHOLE TIME I'VE KNOWN YOU, YOU'VE NEVER HAD ANY WOMEN AROUND.
FOR-BIDDEN LOVE?
WHY'RE YOU GUYS SO FRIENDLY WITH EACH OTHER ALL OF A SUDDEN?

DID WE SAY SOMETHING BAD TO HER?
I THINK SHE WAS JUST SCARED OF ALZEID'S FACE.
I'M VERY SORRY. I DON'T THINK THAT WAS THE REASON
LALA-WELL...?
I'M SORRY I ASKED SUCH A STRANGE QUESTION!
I'LL GO MAKE YOU SOME TEA!

I REGRET THAT SHE HAS TO FEEL INSECURE ABOUT NOT HAVING A MOTHER.
I FEEL BAD FOR HER...
...BUT I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR MY DAUGHTER.
HER MOTHER DIED RIGHT AFTER GIVING BIRTH.
SHE MUST BE SENSITIVE ABOUT ISSUES LIKE AVENGING A PARENT.

knock knock
EXCUSE ME...
I SAID NO!
IT'S A BASIC INSTINCT TO WISH TO BE BETTER THAN OTHERS! I DESERVE TO DEMAND SUCH A WISH!
OF COURSE I'M GONNA IGNORE YOUR STUPID REASON! ARE YOU INSANE?!

ARE WE MAKING TOO MUCH NOISE?
OH, NO.

I WAS WONDERING IF MY DAUGHTER WAS HERE...
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND HER

THEN...
...WHY...

I DON'T WANT TO GO
SO OUR NEXT DESTINATION IS THE PLACE THE OWNER WAS TALKING ABOUT?
YEAH...
I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS...
HOW COME?
HAVE YOU NO CONSIDERATION FOR MY FEELINGS?!
THINK IT'D BE FASTER TO GO NORTH FIRST AND TAKE A BOAT FROM THERE?
YEAH, SEEMS THAT WAY
IF THERE'S A BUNCH OF PEOPLE AROUND WHO LOOK LIKE ME...
...I WON'T STAND OUT ANYMORE!

Sleep NOW!
I'M DEAD TIRED.
GOING BACK?
RAHZEL WILL BE TICKED.
ALTHOUGH I'D LOVE TO KEEP HER COMPANY...
DO YOU KNOW THE PROVERB "THE BITER IS SOMETIMES BITTEN"?
YOU MAY DISAFFBAR AFTER A FEW HOURS, YOU KNOW
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT
WHY DO WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR HER?
SHUT UP! HELPING PEOPLE IS GOOD!
HEY! LARA-WELL!
RIGH, YOU! SHE'S NOT GONNA BE IN A TRASH CAN!
LISTEN. IF THAT LITTLE GIRL IS WALKING AROUND ALONE ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS
I FOUND A LITTLE GIRL RIGHT HERE!
I DON'T GET LOST ALL THE TIME!
HE'D BETTER START TREATING ME LIKE AN ADULT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HIS ATTITUDE!
WELL, YOU CAN BE PRETTY DUMB SOME-TIMES
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT--
EX-TREMELY
TIRED?
DON'T FORGET TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH!
Love that yellow uniform
Funny Fabulous Karaoke Fighter Vergeman!
Protecting the future of the earth!
THERE SHE GOES. SHOULD WE START LOOKING SERIOUSLY NOW?
NAH. I'M GOING BACK TO THE HOTEL.
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR HER THIS WAY. YOU GUYS GO LOOK THAT WAY!

Chapter 13:
The Sun in the Palm—Part 2: Where Souls Rest

GOOD EVENING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
WHO ARE...
WHO I AM DOESN'T MATTER!
IDIOT!
WAIT A MINUTE! IF I'D SK HIM SUCH A SIMPLE QUESTION...
...HE'LL JUST GIVE AN
LIKE THAT!

WHY ARE YOU WANDERING AROUND AT THIS HOUR?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A DATE?
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE
Don't follow me!
JUST NOW, I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE AT ALL!!
[Trying to convince self.]
YOU CAN'T AVOID REALITY.
THEN I'LL KICK HIM LIKE...
THEN I'LL BREAK HIS FINGER...
OH, ACTUALLY I SAW A LITTLE GIRL WALKING AROUND EARLIER.
ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW IF THAT MIGHT BE WHO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.
WHAT KIND OF PERSON?
ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ME?!
NO WAY!
ARE YOU STUPID?! I WAS JUST SAYING THAT OUT OF COURTESY

HI-YA!
?!

WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT NOW DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AROUND LOOKING FOR A STRANGER?
WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR ONE FRIEND AND THAT GIRL...
...YOU ARE MORE LIKE AN IDIOT THAN A HYPOCRITE

REALLY? WHERE?!
THERE'S A CEMETERY AT THE EDGE OF TOWN
IT'S A NICE, QUIET PLACE

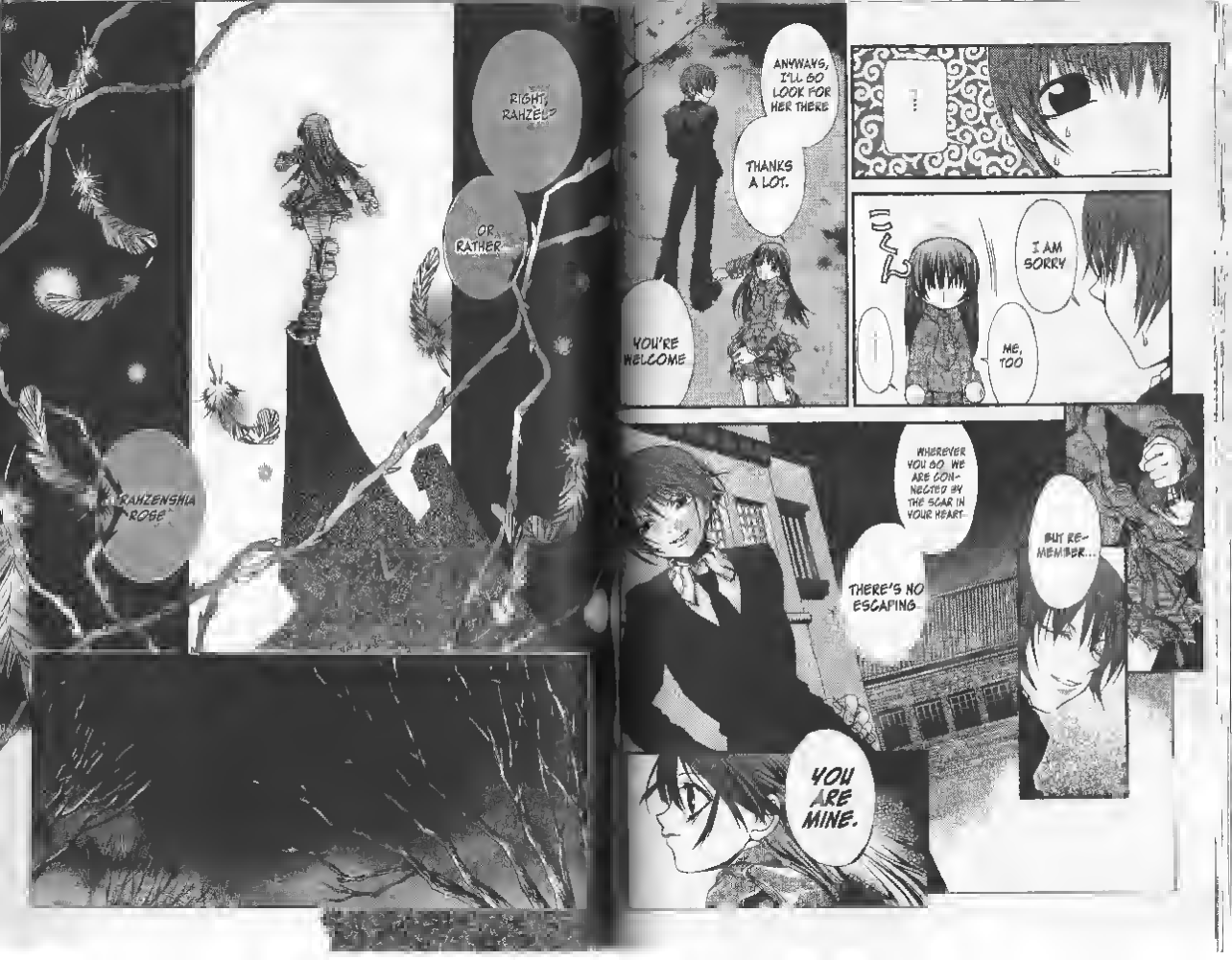
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE SKY BURIAL THING?
I LIKE PLACES WHERE THERE'S NO ONE AROUND
WHY WERE YOU IN SUCH A CREEPY PLACE?

I DIDN'T TOUCH YOUR CHEST
YOU SURE DID!
BUT, UM
SHUT THE HELL UP!

Don't think you can touch me so easily!
TOUCHING A GIRL'S CHEST IS...
THE ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR OF A PERVERT!

OUCH!
WHY'D YOU PUNCH ME? YOU'RE SO VIOLENT!

OR WAS IT BECAUSE
...YOU HAVE THE SAME SCAR RIGHT HERE?
OR COULD YOU JUST NOT SAY NO
...WHEN YOU WERE PUT ON THE SPOT?


RAHZENSHIA ROSE
RIGHT, RAHZEL?
OR RATHER...
ANYWAYS, I'LL GO LOOK FOR HER THERE
THANKS A LOT.
YOU'RE WELCOME
...
I AM SORRY
ME, TOO
WHEREVER YOU GO, WE ARE CONNECTED BY THE SCAR IN YOUR HEART.
THERE'S NO ESCAPING.
BUT REMEMBER...
YOU ARE MINE.

THAT WAS A LIE
THAT SKY BURIAL IS COMMON IN THIS TOWN.

IT'S LIKE GETTING RID OF A NUISANCE.
WE MAKE THE CORPSE FLY AWAY, SAYING "NO TROUBLE WILL ROOT IN THIS TOWN."
IT'S ONLY NORMAL TO CREMINATE THE DEAD. SOME PEOPLE DON'T HAVE ANY FAMILY OR PEOPLE WHO LIVE FROM THE PLACE OF IN SOME STRANGE WAY.

I ENVY THEM A LITTLE.
BECAUSE YOU CAN ALSO SAY THEY'RE FLYING WITH THE BIRDS

I WONDER IF THOSE PEOPLE CAN GO TO HEAVEN.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS "SKY BURIAL" THING THERE'S NO HEADSTONE?
ISN'T THAT INCONVENIENT?

YOU'RE VISITING SOMEONE'S GRAVE AT THIS LATE HOUR OF THE NIGHT?
YOU'RE GOING TO CATCH A COLD!

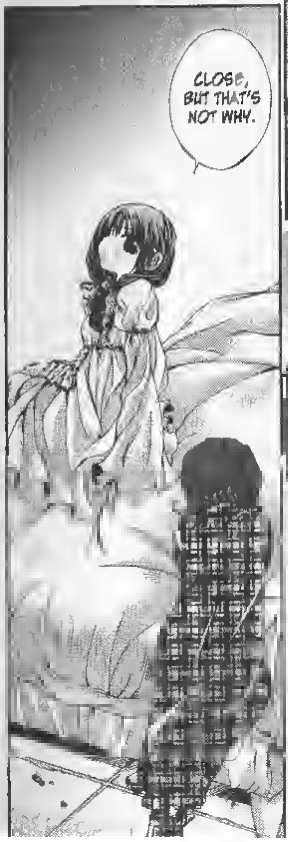
FOUND YOU!

W-WELL...
IT'S RAHZEL
?
CALL ME RAHZEL

C'MON!
LET'S GO BACK!

...A HUMAN BEING HAS MORE ADVANTAGES THAN A BIRD
ALTHOUGH THAT SOUNDS VERY ROMANTIC
...EVENTUALLY THEY BECOME THE BIRD ITSELF
BECOMING THE BLOOD AND FLESH OF THE BIRD
AND THEY CAN FLY FAR AWAY...
IT'LL BE YOUR HOMEWORK UNTIL WE GET BACK TO THE HOTEL.
WELL, WHY DO YOU THINK?
WHY IS THAT SO?
WE DEFINITELY HAVE THE ADVANTAGE!
WHILE A BIRD THAT CAN'T FLY OR A FISH THAT CAN'T SWIM HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO DIE
A HUMAN CAN SURVIVE WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO WALK.
THAT'S RIGHT!!
ADVANTAGES?

I HATE YOU.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
TO TAKE A SHOWER.
GET AWAY FROM ME, PERVERT!
THEN, I'LL WASH YOU... BACK...
WHY AM I SURROUNDED BY IDIOTS?!
AH HA HA! RAHZEL... ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING NAUGHTY?
WELL... YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.♡
IT'S HER FAULT SHE WON'T LET ME DO ANYTHING WITH HER.
I COULD FAINT FROM SO MUCH FRUSTRATION
WHAT ARE YOU ASKING FROM THAT CHILD?
I CAN'T GO INTO THE DETAILS, SINCE OUR EDITOR WILL CUT MY LINE
IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT, YOU KNOW...
SHE'S IN A BAD MOOD
Ouch!
THEN DON'T COME HOME.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
I'M HOME, TOO!
OH WELCOME HOME
I'M HOME... WAIT! THIS IS NO TIME FOR SUCH A PEACEFUL CONVERSATION!
HOW CAN YOU SLEEP SO DEEPLY?!
I HEARD YOU FOUND LARAWELL.
THE HOTEL OWNER WAS THANKING US.
YEAH.
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, BAROQUEHEAT.
WHERE?
SOME GIRL'S PLACE!
AREN'T YOU HUNGRY? WANT A MIDNIGHT SNACK?
NO, I ALREADY ATE.
THEN DO YOU WANT TO TAKE A SHOWER?
I ALREADY TOOK A SHOWER, TOO.



ISN'T THAT NOBLE OF ME?
...BY GETTING SOME EASY ONES HERE AND THERE.
I'M STRIVING TO BEAR WITH IT AND KEEP MYSELF FROM DOING SOMETHING ILLEGAL...

Translatio | Please don t shopt me

I AM A MURDERER.
DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL DISGUSTED?
THEN WHAT IS YOUR TRUE ANSWER?
IT'S A SECRET
IT'S AN ANSWER JUST FOR MYSELF
THEN..
COULD YOU ANSWER MY QUESTION?
LISTEN TO THIS.
WHAT IN THE WORLD DID SHE DO TO HIM?
Hoo hoo hoo!
SO I DID SOMETHING TO HIM... AND THEN I CAME HERE BECAUSE I WAS SCARED OF HIS RETALIATION.
AH!
WHEN I GOT BACK FROM TAKING A SHOWER, HE WAS FAST ASLEEP.
HE SEEMED LIKE HE WAS IN HEAVEN, AND THAT TICKED ME OFF
OH, THAT ANSWER WAS...
..."OUR CULTURE DEVELOPS A SUPPORT SYSTEM."
BUT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...
I THINK THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT
BECAUSE JUST CAN'T LIVE BY IT.
UMM...
HUH?
CAN YOU GIVE ME THE ANSWER TO THE HOMEWORK?

SO, AFTER HEARING THAT..
ARE YOU SCARED OF ME?
ARE YOU DISGUSTED BY ME?
IT'S A BITTER PILL...
THAT IS ..I MEAN...
WHY?
NO...
PLEASE TRY TO THINK HARD.
THEN THAT'S HOME-WORK FOR NEXT TIME.
YOU HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT?

IT'S SOMETHING I REMEMBER...
...FROM WHEN I WAS SO SMALL...
...THAT I COULDN'T DO ANY-THING BY MYSELF.

WE'LL COMPARE OUR ANSWERS...
...TOMORROW...

JUST SAY IT.
HEY, ALZEIO? CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
GOOD MORNING. YOU GUYS WAKE UP SO EARLY...
I HAVE NO IDEA...
WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH YOUR HAIR?
DAMMIT! YOU DID THIS TO ME, STUPID CHICK?!
EEEEK! I'M SORRY!!
YES! WE DO!
DO WE HAVE MATCHING HAIR?
YEAH...

YOU HAVE A COLD?
Don't ignore us
I GUESS...
AHH...
...CHOO!!
YOU WERE COLD TOO WEREN'T YOU?
HUH? WHY DID YOU DO SUCH A STUPID THING?
SHE SEEMED VERY COLD WITH THOSE THIN CLOTHES
YOU'RE TOO WEAK.
CAN YOU JUST SHUT UP? I CAN'T HELP IT, CAN I?
I PUT MY COAT ON LARAWELL AND WALKED BACK HERE IN THE COLD
DO YOU THINK IF YOU HELP SOMEONE ELSE WITH THEIR PAIN, YOU'LL FEEL YOUR OWN LESS?
I CAN'T HELP BUT HURT WHEN OTHERS HURT, OR FEEL COLD WHEN OTHERS ARE FREEZING
You're dumb.

Chapter 14: The Sun in the Palm—Part 3: Witch-Hunting

I CAN'T UNDER-STAND THAT, EITHER.
THEN QUIT WITH THE POINTLESS SPECULATION. JUST GO SHOPPING
WE'RE LEAVING THIS TOWN TOMORROW
OH! I GOTTA TALK TO YOU ABOUT THAT

THAT'S A STUPID THING TO SAY. WHAT'S GOOD AND WHAT'S BAD—
—CHANGES IN DIFFERENT CULTURES AND RELIGIONS
THOUGH I CAN'T UNDER-STAND HOW THEY CAN HAVE SUCH BAD TASTE THAT THEY'D LEAVE A HUMAN BODY TO FEED THE BIRDS

HAVE I EVER DONE ANYTHING TO MAKE YOU HAPPY?
NEVER.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I HAVE NO REASON TO FOLLOW YOU WHEN OUR LOVELY RAHZEL DOESN'T WANT TO GO THERE EITHER

I DECIDED NOT TO GO TO THAT SOUTHWEST VILLAGE WITH YOU ANYMORE.

HEY...
I WON-DER HOW LARAWELL'S MOTHER DIED. ?

I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY AT ALL.
RAHZEL WHERE'S THE BUT-TER?

?
NOW YOU GET IT?
I SEE NOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
I just felt a chill.

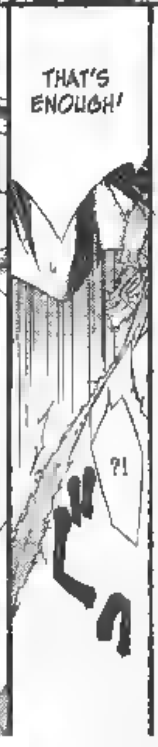
BUT I BELIEVE THE REASON SHE WAS THERE WAS TO VISIT SOMEONE'S GRAVE. IT MUST BE HER MOM'S
DYING FROM GIVING BIRTH TO A CHILD—
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A BAD WAY TO DIE TO ME

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
TRY ORGANIZ-ING YOUR THOUGHTS BEFORE YOU SPEAK.
OH... I'M SO...Y.
LAST NIGHT, I FOUND LARAWELL AT THE SKY BURIAL PLACE.
SHE TOLD ME THAT PLACE IS USED ONLY FOR PEOPLE WHO DIE IN BAD WAYS
Though that's not how I'd describe it.

I'M ACTUALLY NOT MAD AT ALL.
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS HIDING ANY-THING
YOU JUST DIDN'T SAY IT BECAUSE YOU WERE NEVER ASKED?
RIGHT.
GOOD!
I'M GONNA BUY YOU A MEAT BUN LATER.

I THINK YOU JUST WANTED AN EXCUSE TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR TELLING US EVERYTHING ABOUT YOURSELF
WAIT A MINUTE ARE YOU SURE?

GOT IT?
WHEN YOU GUYS ARE SO SECRETIVE ABOUT YOUR PASTS, I'VE GOT NO REASON TO OPEN UP TO YOU!
NONE!!


THAT'S ENOUGH!
?!

IT SOUNDS COOL TO SAY, "WE ARE FINE, SINCE WE TRUST EACH OTHER."
BUT THE TRUTH IS IT'S A SCARY THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT BE HATED ONCE YOU REVEAL YOURSELF

OH NO YOU REALLY MADE NIM MAD
I'M GLAD YOU'RE DOING THIS FOR ME BUT NO FIGHTING, OKAY?
WE FIGHT BECAUSE WE'RE SO CLOSE, Y KNOW?
It'll be all right

IS IT MY FAULT THEY'RE IN A BAD MOOD?!
IS IT ME?
DO WHAT-EVER YOU WANT TO DO I NEVER FORCE ANYONE TO COME WITH ME
I'M GLAD.
BUT AFTER THAT RAHZEL AND I WILL GO A DIFFERENT DIRECTION.
I'LL GO WITH YOU HALFWAY SINCE I FEEL PITY FOR YOU.

HAVE FUN!
NOW WE'RE GOING TO PREPARE FOR OUR TRIP TOGETHER.
Seriously, I'm going on a date with him
Oh, no!

WELL... I WOULDN'T PUT IT THAT WAY.
I WAS INTERESTED IN WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND...
DO YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING TO ME?
I'M REALLY SORRY.
BESIDES THAT?

HEY BAROQUE-HEAT?

HMM?

YOU WERE EAVESDROP-PING ON MY CONVERSATION WITH LARAWELL LAST NIGHT! WEREN'T YOU?

YEAH!!
ALL RIGHT, THEN!
LET'S GO EXPLORE YOUR TOWN TOGETHER!
EH?
EH?!
V-YAY...?
I'LL CAUSE TROUBLE FOR YOU IF YOU'RE WITH ME
I'M SORRY...
?
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU DON'T WANT TO GO, RIGHT?

WAAAH?!
WAIT ONE MINUTE!!

HE'S A GOOD FATHER.
I'M SO SORRY...
LISTEN! YOUR CURFEW IS FIVE P.M.! DINNER WILL BE FRIED SHRIMP!
I'LL MAKE IT CRISPY FOR YOU!
SHE CAN GO EXPLORING AFTER I GIVE HER THIS MUFFLER I KNITTED OVERNIGHT
PLEASE GIVE US A SECOND
SPEED UP!!

...YOU MUST GIVE ME A KISS TO KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT TO ALZEID, OKAY?
YOU MEAN TO SILENCE YOU?

I'M GOING TO REVEAL THINGS ABOUT MYSELF LITTLE BY LITTLE.
SO PLEASE FORGIVE ME THIS TIME.

Gasp!
I'LL FORGIVE YOU FOR A MEAT BUN.
GOOD! AND ALSO...

ARE YOU GOING OUT?
YES. I NEED TO GO SHOPPING.
IF YOU HAVE TIME, COULD YOU BE MY GUIDE?

RAHZEL?

IS THIS SOMETHING LIKE HOW WHEN A BOY'S AT A CERTAIN STAGE OF GROWTH, HE MAKES A GIRL CRY IF HE LIKES HER?
WHAT WAS THAT?!
Oh no! You're bleeding!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? LET ME SEE YOUR FOREHEAD.
AH HA HA! I DID IT!
I ATTACKED THE MONSTER!!
IT'S OKAY! THIS HAPPENS TO ME ALL THE TIME!
I'M GONNA CATCH HIM AND SHAVE HIS HEAD LIKE A REVERSE MOHAWK!
NO, THAT WAS GOING TOO FAR FOR THAT!
PLEASE WAIT...
OKAY, OKAY!
WHO'S WATSON?! ME?!
LET'S GO, WATSON!
THAT'S EVEN WORSE!!
ALL THE TIME?!

TRY TO STOP SAYING SORRY TWO OUT OF EVERY THREE TIMES YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH.
THIS ISN'T HOMEWORK-- THIS IS AN ASSIGNMENT FROM NOW ON, OKAY?
OKAY?
LISTEN, LARAWELL...
I'M SORRY...
DON'T WORRY! YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS A DOTING PATIENT.
?!

BLOOD
BLOOD IS COMING DOWN
IT'S RED
RED...
BLOOD!!
IT'S FINE! PLEASE CALM DOWN, DADDY!

IT'S NOT THAT BAD

IT'S SUCH BAD TASTE

OH! LARA-WELL!
YOU'RE HOME ALREADY?
UM...
...I FORGOT SOMETHING.

IT'S FINE! I JUST FELL DOWN...
LARA-WELL! YOU'RE HURT?!
I SEE BLOOD!
BLOOD...
CRASH

DO YOU WANNA PLAY SOCCER WITH ME?
I SAW SOME PEOPLE WITH HER TODAY.
BUT I'M SURE THEY WON'T CHASE US FOR HER SAKE
YAHOO! WE RULE!
I'LL BE THE PLAYER...
...AND YOU GUYS ARE THE BALL!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
ARE YOU STUPID?!
HEY... DON'T BE MEAN.
SOCCER IS FUN!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
YES.
WHO INDEED?
IT LOOKS LIKE THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST. I LIKE IT.
DON'T YOU THINK SO, ALZEID?

I HAVE NO IDEA.
YOU JUST LEFT HER OUT THERE?!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CALLED TO ME LIKE YOUR PET...
AND I RESPONDED "WOOF WOOF!"

HEY, DID YOU CHECK HOW LARAWELL WAS?

BUT I'M PRETTY GOOD AT PUNISHING KIDS.
YOU GOTTA TAKE OFF HIS PANTS WHEN YOU WANNA SMACK HIS BUTT!

OW...
SOB.

ANYWAY, I BETTER GO BACK TO HER!
CAN YOU COME WITH ME TO GO SHOPPING LATER?
OF COURSE.

THAT GIRL IS DIFFERENT!
LISTEN TO ME, KIDS!
YOU'D BETTER BE SWEET TO GIRLS FROM NOW ON, SO YOU CAN TASTE THEIR GOODNESS EARLIER!

...MY FRIEND!!
THE BALL IS..

DON'T YOU THINK THE RULE OF "AN EYE FOR AN EYE"
IS ALL THESE BRATS ARE MATURE ENOUGH TO HANDLE?

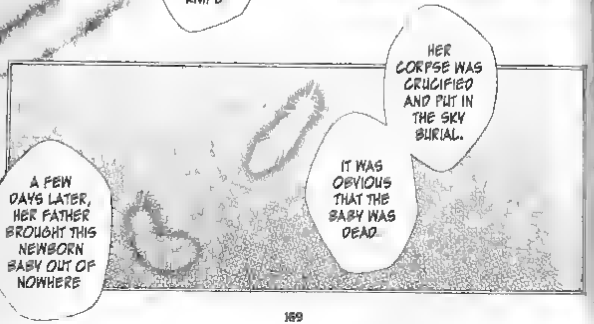
WHAT?! DID I BREAK A RULE ALREADY?!
HAND!
IT WAS GONNA BE MORE EXCITING THIS WAY!

I'M NOT SAYING YOU'RE WRONG.
BUT AN ADULT BEATING UP KIDS?
I DON'T WANT TO SEE THAT.

THAT'S GOING TOO FAR.

EIGHT YEARS AGO, HER MOTHER WAS PREGNANT AND GOT KILLED BY A ROBBER.

I HEARD SHE GOT STABBED A BUNCH OF TIMES WITH A KNIFE.

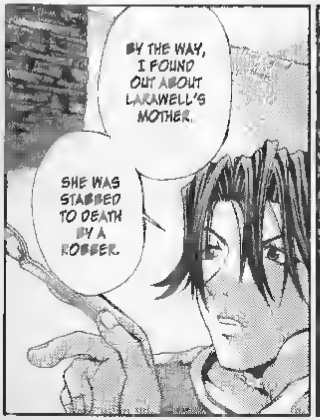

HER CORPSE WAS CRUCIFIED AND PUT IN THE SKY BURIAL.
IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE BABY WAS DEAD.
A FEW DAYS LATER, HER FATHER BROUGHT THIS NEWBORN BABY OUT OF NOWHERE

HE SOLD HIS SOUL TO THE DEVIL, AND...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
IS ANYBODY HOME?
THAT MAN SOLD HIS SOUL TO THE DEVIL.
AND PEOPLE WHO STAYED AT HIS HOTEL HAVE BEEN FOUND DEAD EVER SINCE THEN.
ISN'T SHE CUTE? SHE'S MY BABY.
ADULTS WERE SAYING IT WAS BLACK MAGIC.
THEY SAID ALL THE DEAD PEOPLE WERE SACRIFICED BY HIM.
THAT'S STRANGE
NOBODY'S HERE?
Step

WE'RE LEAVING THIS TOWN RIGHT AWAY.
WHAT? RIGHT THIS SECOND? WHY?!
WELCOME HOME.
ALZEID!
I LEFT SOME MONEY IN THE ROOM, SINCE I COULDN'T FIND THE HOTEL OWNER.
AND I CAN EDUCATE YOU BETTER WITHOUT BAROQUEHEAT AROUND.
WE HAVEN'T PAID THE HOTEL BILL YET, AND BAROQUEHEAT IS STILL IN TOWN!
I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT RUNS THROUGH THAT HEAD OF YOURS!
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU EAT AND HOW IT'S DIGESTED AND HOW IT WORKS FOR YOUR PHYSIOLOGY!
I DON'T KNOW

Chapter 15:
The Sun in the Palm—Part 4: A Break in the Clouds

WHY DID HE TELL ME THAT?
USING THIS THEORY, WE CAN PREVENT CRIMES BEFORE THEY HAPPEN, AND...
...WE CAN ALSO CREATE A CRIMINAL OF OUR OWN.
WHAT DOES HE KNOW?
THAT STUPID RAHZEL KICKED ME SO HARD! IT HURTS...
RAHZEL, ARE YOU IN A BAD MOOD?
ANYWAY, I DON'T LIKE WHAT'S GOING ON RIGHT NOW!


BY THE WAY, I FOUND OUT ABOUT LARAWELL'S MOTHER.
SHE WAS STABBED TO DEATH BY A ROBBER.

NOT REALLY.
I'M IN A TOTALLY GREAT MOOD.
DOES THAT TASTE GOOD?
IT'S DELICIOUS. ♡

YOU'D BETTER THREATEN OR BEG ME IF YOU EXPECT ME TO DO WHAT YOU WANT!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

BUT WHY ARE WE LEAVING RIGHT NOW?
BECAUSE I SAY SO.

?!
IDIOT!

IT SAYS THERE'S CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR PROGRAMMED INTO A CRIMINAL'S BODY FROM THE VERY BEGINNING
ISN'T THAT FASCINATING?

I HAVEN'T FINISHED SHOPPING YET!
DIDN'T YOU ORDER ME TO DO IT?! STUPID!
Tsk
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE CRIMINAL GENE THEORY?

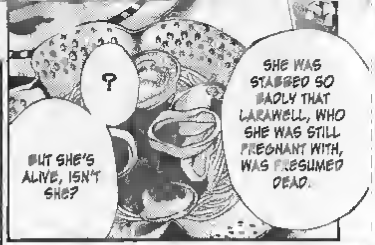
WHAT DO YOU MEAN_?
I'M JUST BOUNCING IDEAS OFF YOU
ANYWAY, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR A DEAD PERSON TO COME BACK TO LIFE

IT SOUNDS STUPID
WOULDN'T IT MAKE MORE SENSE TO BRING HER MOM BACK TO LIFE FIRST?
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE CONVENIENT TO LEAVE HER DEAD

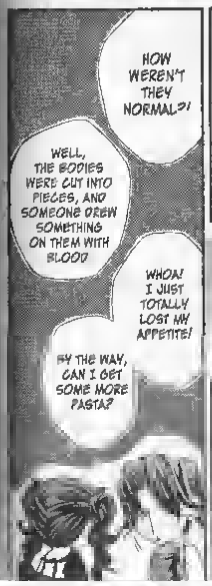
LOOK AT THAT!
WHAT'S WITH THE RUCKUS?! YOU'RE DISTURBING THE CUSTOMERS!

GYAAH!!
SHE PROBABLY GAVE BIRTH RIGHT BEFORE HER DEATH.

BLACK MAGIC?!


?
BUT SHE'S ALIVE, ISN'T SHE?
SHE WAS STABBED SO BADLY THAT LARAWELL, WHO SHE WAS STILL PREGNANT WITH, WAS PRESUMED DEAD.

WHAT I HEARD WAS...
HUH?
SHE WAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE


HOW WEREN'T THEY NORMAL?!
WELL, THE BODIES WERE CUT INTO PIECES, AND SOMEONE DREW SOMETHING ON THEM WITH BLOOD
WHOA! I JUST TOTALLY LOST MY APPETITE!
BY THE WAY, CAN I GET SOME MORE PASTA?

WHY WOULD SHE SUDDENLY BE REBORN WITH BLACK MAGIC?
I DON'T KNOW

I GUESS SOME DEAD BODIES WERE DISCOVERED, AND THEY DIDN'T LOOK NORMAL.
SO THE TOWNSPEOPLE ARE TRYING TO RELATE IT TO LARAWELL OR SOMETHING

THAT'S OKAY.
I WAS JUST WORRIED.
JENFOUPE!!
WHERE...
WHERE WERE YOU THIS AFTERNOON?
I WAS TAKING LARAWELL TO THE HOSPITAL.
I'M SORRY I LEFT THE PLACE UNATTENDED.
AS LONG AS IT WAS JUST YOUR HOTEL GUESTS YOU WERE KILLING, WE TURNED A BLIND EYE. BUT NOW YOU'VE KILLED ONE OF OUR TOWNSPEOPLE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
QUIT ACTING!
SOMEONE SAW YOU WANDERING AROUND THE TOWN TODAY!
YOU FINALLY KILLED SOMEONE IN OUR TOWN!

WELCOME BACK!
?
THIS AFTERNOON...
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK UNSETTLED.

EIGHT YEARS AGO, I WAS THE ONE WHO KILLED MY WIFE, TOO.
JENPOUPE, I WANT A DIVORCE

YOU CAN IMAGINE WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT.
WELL. I DO HAVE ONE MORE THING TO CONFESS.

I SLIPPED!
OOPS!

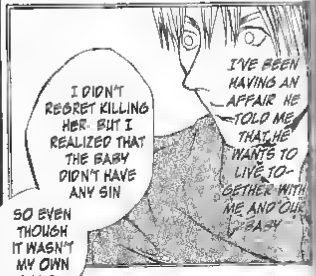
PLEASE STOP! THERE MUST BE A MISTAKE!
OUT OF MY WAY!
IF YOU TRY TO PROTECT HIM, YOU'LL BE CHARGED AS AN ACCOMPLICE!

OH YEAH, YOU!
YOU SHARE THE BLOOD OF A KILLER!

—IT SEEMS LIKE I AM THE ONE—
—WHO WAS GIVING HER THE MOST PAIN.

—I COMMITTED MYSELF TO LOVE AND PROTECT LARAWELL TO MAKE UP FOR THE DEAD BABY.
ALTHOUGH I TRIED TO ELIMINATE EVERYTHING THAT WAS HURTING LARAWELL

IT'S NOT YOUR CHILD.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE'RE ABOUT TO HAVE A BABY TOGETHER!


I'VE BEEN HAVING AN AFFAIR. HE TOLD ME THAT HE WANTS TO LIVE TOGETHER WITH ME AND OUR BABY.
I DIDN'T REGRET KILLING HER. BUT I REALIZED THAT THE BABY DIDN'T HAVE ANY SIN
SO EVEN THOUGH IT WASN'T MY OWN CHILD—

IGNORING
YOU'RE WEARING PLATFORMS ALREADY, AREN'T YOU?
DO ME A FAVOR AND CUT OFF YOUR HEIGHT FOR ME.
MAYBE CUT OFF YOUR HEAD.
I CAN'T CUT OFF MY HEAD!!
THAT'S RIGHT. VIOLENCE DOESN'T SOLVE ANYTHING!
ARE YOU GOING TO INTERRUPT US NOW, OUTSIDE?!
THAT WASN'T JUST INTERRUPTING! THAT WAS KICKING!!

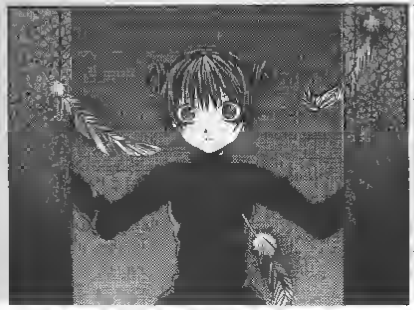
LARAWELL ISN'T REALLY MY CHILD.
I FOUND HER AS AN ABANDONED BABY AT THE GRAVE WHERE MY WIFE WAS CRUCIFIED.

RAHZEL?
THINK ABOUT IT! HE JUST HAD TO KILL THE PEOPLE WHO HARMED LARAWELL!
WHY DID HE HAVE TO PIECE THAT CORPSE BACK TOGETHER AND SHOW IT OFF ON PURPOSE?
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE HER FATHER WAS THE KILLER.
AND THE DAY AFTER THAT, YOU'D WANT TO STAY YET ANOTHER DAY?
WHEN YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T BE WITH HER FOREVER, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER IT'S TODAY OR TOMORROW THAT YOU LEAVE
.....
AS AWKWARD AS IT MAY BE, I'M SURE ALL THE TOWNSPEOPLE ARE JUST RELIEVED THAT HE'S DEAD
HE FINALLY KILLED HIMSELF, STILL LIVING THE LIE EVEN AT THE END
...HE DEFLECTED ATTENTION FROM THE TRUE KILLER BY CREATING DISTURBING ARTWORK OUT OF CORPSES, SPOTLIGHTING HIMSELF
BASICALLY, YOU'RE GAWING THAT.
I KNOW THAT!!
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON HE WOULD PROTECT BY PLAYING SUCH A ROLE.
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
WAAAH!!!
I AM SO SORRY, LARAWELL.
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING THAT I CAN DO FOR YOU ANYMORE
ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT LARAWELL?
YEAH..
I WONDER IF I SHOULD HAVE STAYED ONE MORE DAY FOR HER
RAHZEL?

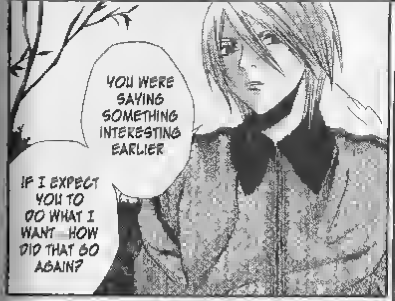
SIGH
PICK ONE!
OPTION ONE--BREAK THROUGH THE WINDOWS OPTION TWO--BREAK DOWN THE DOOR...OPTION THREE--BREAK EVERYTHING...
YOU'RE A BORN CRIMINAL.
WHY ARE THOSE THE ONLY OPTIONS?!

THERE'S NO ANSWER
SHE MIGHT BE SLEEPING BY NOW

I SEE... THIS IS THE MOMENT WHEN WE ALL ARE TESTED TO SEE IF WE HAVE COMMON SENSE, HUH?
THAT'S WHY I HATE PEOPLE WITH NO COMMON SENSE.
IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS USE A TOOL (FOR EXAMPLE, A HAIRPIN) TO OPEN A DOOR PEACEFULLY.



I'M COMING IN...


YOU WERE SAYING SOMETHING INTERESTING EARLIER
IF I EXPECT YOU TO DO WHAT I WANT...HOW DID THAT GO AGAIN?

YOU ARE TRULY EVIL.
IF YOU REFUSE ME THIS, I'LL MAKE ONLY CARROTS AND GREEN PEPPERS FOR YOUR MEALS FROM NOW ON.

THAT'S WHY I WANT TO CHECK ONE MORE TIME.
I WANT TO MAKE SURE I'M JUST IMAGINING THINGS...
CAN'T I GO BACK...?

LARA-WELL?
ARE YOU HOME?

HE WAS ONE OF THE GUESTS AT OUR HOTEL.
ASHES FROM HIS CIGARETTE FELL ON ME WHEN HE WAS PASSING BY.
IT WAS PAINFUL.
I WAS ONLY FOUR THE FIRST TIME I KILLED SOMEONE.
I'M NOT DISGUSTED...
...BUT I DON'T UNDER-STAND IT.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I DO THINGS LIKE THAT.
I DON'T WANT TO KILL ANYONE...
I'VE NEVER HATED ANYONE IN MY LIFE, EITHER.
AND THAT WAS IT. THAT WAS THE ONLY REASON...
DOESN'T IT SOUND INSANE? I'VE ALREADY KILLED SEVEN PEOPLE FOR SUCH STUPID REASONS.

RAHZEL...
MAY I ASK YOU A QUESTION?
I AM A MURDERER. DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL DISGUSTED?
THIS MAN TRIED TO KILL ME...
HE SAID IT WAS REVENGE FOR HIS DEAD SON.
AH HA HA...
DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE CONSIDERED SELF-DE-FENSE?

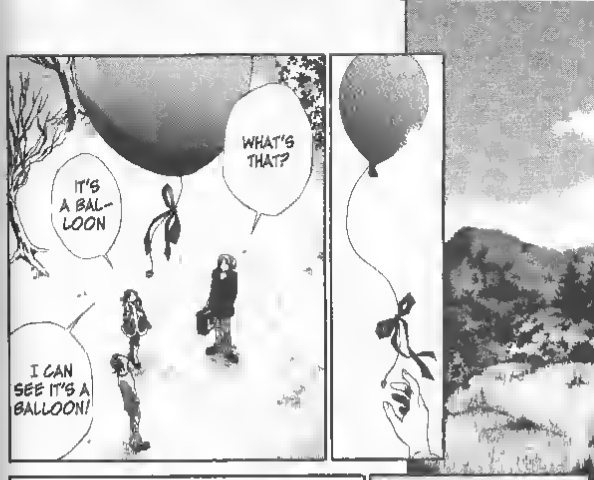
IT'S BECAUSE YOUR HAND ON MY FACE WAS SO WARM...
IT WAS WARM LIKE SUNSHINE...
Splat!
NOOOO!!

DO YOU REMEMBER...
...THE HOMEWORK?
LARA-WELL..
Bang!
PLEASE DON'T COME NEAR ME!!
Sshk!
THAT IS... I MEAN...
I'LL TELL YOU THE ANSWER NOW.
NO...
WHY?
HOMEWORK...
ARE YOU SCARED OF ME? ARE YOU DISGUSTED BY ME?

PLEASE HELP HER, ALZEID!!
W-WHY...?!
WHY CAN'T MY HAND HOLD ON TO ANY-THING...
...WHEN IT MOST NEEDS TO...?
IT HURTS!
IT HURTS SO MUCH!!
PLEASE HELP HER...!!

CALM DOWN. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR HER
THINK OF YOUR-SELF
THIS WOUND ISN'T HURTING OR BUGGING ME AT ALL!
I HAVE TO HURRY AND HELP LARAWELL BEFORE--
LARA-WELL!!
HOLD STILL, IDIOT!!
NO!
NOOOOO! LET GO OF ME!!
SHUT UP!!
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS NOT BEING IN PAIN JUST BECAUSE SOMEBODY ELSE IS HURTING!
YOU'LL JUST HARM YOURSELF MORE, EVEN IF YOU REALLY ARE FEELING FINE!

WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE, STUPID CHICK?
LET'S GO!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT...
I'M COMING...
...NOW...
C'MON.


WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S A BAL-LOON
I CAN SEE IT'S A BALLOON!

My info will be short
AND EVENTUALLY, THE REAL BIRD WILL POKE THE BALLOON, AND IT'LL CRASH
DON'T YOU EVER SAY THAT AGAIN!!
LARAWELL ONCE TOLD ME THAT SHE WANTED TO FLY LIKE A BIRD...
I JUST WANTED TO SEND MY WISH UP FOR HER.

Dazzle Q&A

We'll be waiting for your questions

THE WEATHER'S SO NICE!
IT'S SUCH A GREAT SUNNY AUTUMN DAY!
IT'S WINTER FACE REALITY.
THEN, IT'S A SUNNY WINTER AUTUMN DAY!
YOU GUYS NEED TO GO BACK TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

Dazzle Volume 2 END

When Rahzel, Alzeid and Baroqueheat arrive in a new town, they run into an old acquaintance of Rahzel's named Jelice... who gives the boys some interesting insight into Rahzel's past. Meanwhile, the town's local religious leader becomes obsessed with Rahzel...to the point of actually kidnapping her! Just what nefarious plans does he have in store for our sojourning sorceress?

Find out in Volume 3 of Dazzle!

height 182cm
weight 63kg
eye color scarlet
hair color white
likes
cocoa
peach
sweets
sleep
dislikes
morning
bath
alarm
carrot
green pepper